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## Monopoly bar on bank bids

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission is reported to have rejected both of the £500m competing bids for the Royal Bank of Scotland. A confidential report still in the hands of Mr John Biffen, Trade Secretary, is believed to have ruled that a merger with either the Standard Chartered Bank or the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation would be against the public interest. Mr Biffen still has powers to overrule the commission report, which will be published officially this week.

## No easy answer, Whitelaw says

Mr William Whitelaw has criticized Conservative proposals for easy solutions on law and order. Complex crime could not be solved by slogans about capital and corporal punishment, he said. He also promised an independent element into the investigation of serious complaints against police. Page 3

## Pit loyalty may swing vote

Opinions expressed at National Union of Mineworkers' branch meetings in the Durham and Yorkshire areas discuss a reluctance to strike over the 24 per cent pay claim. But loyalty to the union could still produce the 55 per cent national majority required for strike action. Page 3

## Dr Runcie ends visit to China

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, has left China after a three-day visit. Before flying to Hong Kong, where he will rest before visiting Sri Lanka and returning home, he emphasized the church's role in building international bridges. Page 5

## Tatchell test for peace pact

The review of the selection of Mr Peter Tatchell as prospective Labour candidate at Southwark, Bermondsey will test today the new peace agreement between the party and trade unions reached at Bishop's Stortford. Page 2

## Power struggle in Albania

Mr Enver Hoxha, the Albanian leader, who is reported to be embroiled in a fierce power struggle after the alleged suicide of Mr Mehmet Shehu, his Prime Minister. Reports from Tirana claim that Mr Shehu was shot dead and President Hoxha injured during a political showdown. Page 5

## Dearer canned beer likely

Prices of canned beer sold through supermarkets are expected to rise next month. Trade indications are that the increase will be at least 2p on a large can. Page 11

## World Cup win

New Zealand qualified for the last of the 24 places in the World Cup football finals in Spain by beating China 2-1 in their Asia-Oceania play-off in Singapore. They will play in the final stages of the tournament for the first time. Page 14

## Air crash fear

Tan Sri Chazali Shafie, the Malaysian Foreign Minister, is feared dead after his aircraft, which was also carrying two aides, crashed near Kuala Lumpur soon after leaving an air force base. Page 4

## Nuclear doubt

The £1,300m nuclear power station under construction at Torness, East Lothian, is not needed, according to a former Commons select committee adviser. Page 11

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Letters: On London Transport, from Councillor Robert Vigers, and others; rape case, from Mr Jack Ashley, CH, MP, and others.

## Leading articles: Miners' strike ballot; Information Technology Year.

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Roger Boyes tries to establish the truth about Poland's internecine. The case for prosecution appeals.  
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# Blizzards put Welsh food supplies in danger

By Tim Jones, Craig Seton and Frances Gibb

As freezing temperatures gripped Britain again last night, Wales was almost isolated by snow and ice and the Welsh Office was urged to order the use of troops to help deliver supplies. The South-west was also badly affected, with many roads blocked. A new record low temperature in England was claimed at Newport, Shropshire, where -26.1°C was recorded, and the Weather Centre said a temperature of -27.2°C was recorded at Braemar in Scotland on Saturday night, equalling the lowest recorded in Britain, also at Braemar on February 11, 1895.

The freezing temperatures served further to compact huge drifts blown across Welsh roads in 37 hours of continuous snow. The snow, the worst in memory in Wales, caused the collapse of some buildings, isolated cities and towns and small communities and towns and stranded thousands of people in mid-journey.

As temperatures dropped, snow ploughs were fighting a losing battle and at one stage mountain rescue teams worked to make people trapped on the M4 safe. Hundreds of schools in Wales will be closed for days and people have been warned that bread, milk, and other supplies will not be available.

## Train passengers stranded

From the air Wales resembled a pretty picture postcard but at ground level the snow lost its romance. Farmers working to exhaustion feared that stock losses would be enormous, with thousands of sheep dying from hunger or exposure.

RAF helicopters from Brandy Dyked and Valley in Anglesey worked throughout the day to take seriously injured women and sick people to hospitals. Four other helicopters took electricity board engineers to South Pembroke, where 10,000 people have been without supplies since Thursday.

One woman, Mrs Christine Smith, who was carried on a stretcher two miles through snowdrifts from her isolated cottage to a waiting helicopter, gave birth to twins at Machynlleth Hospital.

Others were not so lucky. One farmer near Bala who went to care for his flock was found dead by neighbours three hours after he should have returned home.

A 27-hour ordeal for passengers stranded on a train near Tynwy, Gwynedd, ended on Saturday morning when a helicopter beaten back on its first attempt, landed in a field, and flew them to warmth and safety.

## 500 men trapped in steel works

Five hundred men were still trapped last night at the Port Talbot steelworks, where they have been since Thursday when drifting snow cut off the plant. A further 100 have been stranded at the BSC works at Llanwern, since Friday. There is snow 3ft deep in the blast furnaces.

British Steel said the men had been working round the clock to keep the buildings and equipment safe. They had only had a few hours sleep in offices and canteens. In Cardiff, blizzards made almost every street impassable and one of the city's most famous buildings, the Sophia Gardens Pavilion, was destroyed when its roof collapsed under the weight of snow. A large indoor bowling green suffered the same fate.

Powys, the largest county in Wales, was completely cut off, and in Mid and South Glamorgan more than 1,000 people were still lodged in emergency centres last night, their support stuck in snow. Ploughs have made no progress in

attempts to clear the key Heads of the Valleys road.

The Australian rugby football team, whose last game of their tour, against the Barbarians at Cardiff, was cancelled, found themselves stranded in a Portcawl hotel with Miss Erika Roe, the girl who bared her bosom at Twickenham. Miss Roe was later rescued by a Porcawl Group helicopter, leaving the rugby players to worry about their intended departure from Heathrow today.

Most main roads in Devon and Cornwall, closed by heavy snow on Friday and Saturday, were reopened yesterday but few people ventured out. Many churches remained closed.

The worst area in the South-west was north Devon, where most roads remained impassable because of heavy drifts and many villages and small towns were cut off. Up to 10,000 homes have been without electricity since Friday and half of them, in the Barnstaple and Bideford areas, will be without power until today.

In addition, 12 telephone exchanges and a local radio transmitter in the area were out of order.

The police in Cornwall, Devon, Avon and Somerset reported some improvement in driving conditions during the day but many roads remained treacherous. Although rail services into the South-west improved, many local bus services failed to run for a second day.

Farmers, however, were reported to have coped well because the bad weather was expected and many, especially those in isolated areas of the moors, took precautions to safeguard their stock and to get in extra feed. But dairy farmers are expected to have difficulty in getting their supplies to the Milk Marketing Board.

The M4, which had been blocked by snow and abandoned vehicles was finally reopened. At one point police rolled giant snowballs into the snow to stop motorists who ignored "closed" signs at the entrance to the motorway near Bristol.



Joys of the road: Slew and abandoned lorries straggling the snow-covered M4 near Cardiff yesterday.

## Thatcher wants to be even tougher

By George Clark, Political Staff

The Prime Minister admitted by implication yesterday that she is being forced to modify her economic policy because she fears a Conservative backbench rebellion and possible defeat in the Commons.

That was not how she put it, in a BBC radio interview, but it was the only interpretation that could be placed on Mrs Thatcher's remarks.

She lauded the efforts of Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in West Germany. "He is even tougher on inflation than I am. I would like to be tougher", she said.

"He is even tougher on public spending cuts than I am. I would like to be tougher on public spending. But I have to do what I think we can get through Parliament. I would like to go faster, but I cannot go faster than Parliament and people will go."

While Mrs Thatcher was speaking, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the other Treasury ministers met their advisers at a secret rendezvous in the Home Counties to decide the general lines of budgetary policy for 1982-83.

One of the questions they will be asked is whether it will be possible to make any tax concessions in the Spring Budget. Their verdict will be discussed by the Cabinet later this month or early in February.

Mrs Thatcher was told by Mr

Gordon Clough on Radio 4's The World This Week that many people felt they had been misled by Conservative promises of tax cuts.

She blamed the rising price of oil for a world recession which no one could have predicted and said: "It is very ironic that the people who are urging me to put up public spending are the same who are urging me to put down taxation. That is just plain dishonesty."

When people said they wanted more public spending, she always asked them where they would cut to make room for it, or would they pay more tax?

"People are saying to me, 'Mrs T' we are paying enough in direct taxation, enough in indirect taxes, and enough in rates.' Yes, everyone would like more to be spent, but we want more in our pockets too," the Prime Minister said.

She confessed to being not merely angry but dismayed when people used democracy as a vehicle for saying "Look, you vote for me and I will see that you get more and someone else will pay."

"That is not right. Some people are offering it now, calling it reflation. But I have to say, 'Come off your dreams!'" She thought the Government had pursued a reasonable course and in a general election, voters would be asked to support it.

Continued on back page, col 1

## New Church initiative to roll back martial law

# Polish regime eases censorship to improve its image abroad

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 10

The Polish military authorities have decided to improve their image in the West by lifting censorship restrictions on foreign correspondents, restoring some domestic telephone links and giving telex lines back to some Western embassies.

The move comes at the start of a difficult and complicated week for the ruling Military Council and the Communist Party. Party sources expect a Central Committee meeting within the next few days to determine some policy directions and to decide the scope of the current purge of officials. Two first secretaries have been ousted in the past few days—Mr Tadeusz Fiszbach of Gdansk, who was toppled for having given too much ground to Solidarity, and Mr Andrzej Zdanowicz of Katowice, headliner whose policy of confrontation with Solidarity has undermined party support.

Over the past seven days the Church has been challenging the Military Council, with increasing outspokenness, and since a meeting this week-end of Archbishop Jozef Glemp with General Jaruzelski, Church sources believe that the conflict of interest will officially start to improve.

Last week Archbishop Glemp gave a stirring sermon in St John's Cathedral in Warsaw in which his description of a visit to women's internment centre moved many of the congregation to tears and marked a new Church initiative to roll back martial law.

It is difficult to assess whether the lifting of censorship fits into a wider trend of liberalization—the long awaited thaw after a month of rough military rule that resulted in at least eight deaths (official estimate) and the internment without trial of thousands.

There are some tell-tale signs supporting the "thaw" thesis. Two tank divisions have withdrawn from northern and southern suburbs of the capital; soldiers are increasingly carrying their rifles on their backs rather than at the ready; scheduled overseas flights (though only with Lot, the state carrier) are expected to resume next week; and the black market and prostitutes are returning to the fairs of hotels, having disappeared on the night that martial law was declared.

However, it is still impossible to telephone from one city to another or visit relatives in other parts of the country without special permission. The roadblocks are still manned in the capital and the 14 to 5 curfew persists.

Most of the relaxation on communications and censorship is aimed at recapturing the ground lost in foreign policy terms over the past four weeks of military rule. In the absence of uncensored

news from Poland, rumours have filled the vacuum, projecting an unfavourable image largely shaped by travellers' reports of internment conditions.

The evidence suggests that the Military Council was taken by surprise by the strength of the Western response to the military takeover and the violation of human rights and diplomatic guarantees particularly incensed by breaches of the Vienna Convention which guarantees communications between embassies and their capitals.

What impact the move will have on foreign policy is difficult to gauge. The main obstacle to establishing normal working relations with Western countries is the economic crisis—the continuing internment of political critics. The government spokesman, Mr Jerzy Urban, said on Saturday that only one of the internees was likely to face trial. Mr Marian Jurczyk, Interim minister, said that martial law was lifted, he said.

However, this is largely a question of definition of terms. If an internnee is released after signing a pledge to "stop precipitating anti-social activities" and then takes part in Solidarity activities, he could be re-arrested, charged and sentenced. Formerly he would no longer be an internnee.

Still, the official picture of events is now more and more salving with the facts—the situation is indeed calm.

## Fears for the future

# Moscow counts the cost

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, Jan 10

With the arrival here today of Mr Jozef Cyrtek, the Polish Foreign Minister, Soviet leaders tomorrow begin the first publicly announced top level talks with the Polish Government since the imposition of martial law a month ago.

The talks coincide with the Nato meeting in Brussels, and follow the announcement in Warsaw this weekend that some of the martial law restrictions are to be eased. Both East and West are taking stock of the Polish situation and of relations with each other in the light of the crisis.

For the Russians, martial law, though putting a welcome and abrupt end to the slide into political chaos and "counter-revolution" has brought a double crisis: it has worsened the tense relations with the United States while producing an unexpectedly sharp response from Western Europe. And it has raised fundamental questions about the nature of communist power and the future of the Soviet Union's largest ally in the Warsaw Pact.

In the short term, the American sanctions and the feared impact of the careful Soviet attempts to woo Western Europe are the most immediate issues. The Russians have clearly been stung by the fierce condemnation by the European Community, and in spite of

early transatlantic disagreements, fear the Polish crisis will strengthen the Western alliance and rally the more dovish members to the American view.

The Russians know they may have to pay a high price for General Jaruzelski's draconian measures: the vital gas pipeline to West Germany may have to be delayed or renegotiated; the burden of supporting Poland economically will increase as Western aid is halted or diverted; Western peace movements on which the Russians were counting to hold up Nato's rearmament plans have suffered a setback; the split with Western communist parties has deepened and the Italian party and other Eurocommunists have gone on the offensive.

Though fulminating anew against President Reagan, Moscow does not see a threat to its vital interests that patience and restraint will not remove American sanctions, were half expected and are seen as little more than symbolic. The one serious measure, a new grain embargo, is not included.

The Geneva arms talks on limiting medium-range missiles in Europe, of overwhelming importance to the Russians, are to continue, and there is still talk in Washington of a possible Reagan-Brezhnev summit.

In spite of—and maybe because of—the growing influence of the military forces within the Soviet Union itself, the Soviet party leadership cannot but be alarmed by the virtual abolition of the Polish barracks.

The long-term questions include: What is the future of the Polish party? What is to be done with Solidarity? How many of the reforms enacted in the past 18 months are to be kept? How is Poland to achieve solvency? What can be done to ensure the same crisis does not erupt with renewed vigour when the troops return to barracks.

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## President's brother shot in Iran

Continued on back page, col 1

### "Tea Time at Garrard"

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Poland: Nato looks for answer

## Haig meets resistance in Brussels today

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Jan 10

The Polish crisis has forced Nato to call a special meeting of the North Atlantic Council for the first time in its history. The meeting takes place in Brussels tomorrow, with the urgent task before it of proving the unity of the alliance.

The importance of the meeting is underlined by the fact that Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, will be there. His aim is to reinforce the European members of the alliance and to urge them to take tougher action in line with American sanctions already announced against the Soviet Union.

EEC foreign ministers held a special informal meeting a week ago to work out a statement on Poland, but it is only in the Nato forum that a meeting involving allies from both sides of the Atlantic can properly take place.

An all-party delegation of American congressmen in Brussels last week made it plain that they were disappointed but not surprised that the EEC foreign ministers had condemned martial law in Poland but had stopped short of agreeing on any sanctions. The congressmen were, however, pleased by undertakings not to undermine American sanctions and to support suggestions that Europe might impose import restrictions on Soviet goods.

The three prime objectives of the European countries were spelt out last week in the statement agreed by the EEC foreign ministers in Brussels. These are: an early end to martial law, a release of those arrested; and a return to the talks between the Government, the trade unions and the Roman Catholic Church.

These objectives could be shared by the United States; but the tactics required to achieve them lie at the centre of the discussions which will form the basis of tomorrow's meeting.

European diplomats are expecting — and in some cases preparing to resist — pressure from Mr Haig to push the allies into producing a final statement that would include a commitment to take tough concrete measures against the Soviet Union.

The Polish authorities may have had this in mind when they lifted some restrictions on the circulation of the press last weekend in a move at least partly aimed at soothing European feelings.

Although there is a shared European view that the imposition of martial law must have been with Soviet approval, there is no accepted proof of direct involvement in what occurred.

One diplomat explained:

"The one circumstance we made no allowances for was that the Poles might invade themselves."

The difficulty in agreeing tactics is underlined by the continuing uncertainty among the allies as to what prompted the takeover by General Wojciech Jaruzelski. West Germany and Greece are still prepared to give him the benefit of the doubt and conclude that he stepped in to forestall a Soviet invasion.

West German sources indicate that their Government is unlikely to agree to any measures that could seriously damage its policy of détente; Greece is not prepared to endorse a final statement condemning the Soviet Union; France will oppose moves to cut off essential aid to Poland.

France also has suggested at meetings of officials that Washington is guilty of trying to impose a double set of standards. The French Government contrasts the American stand on Poland with the support it gives to the military regimes in Turkey, Chile and El Salvador.

A number of European countries, notably France and West Germany, also are unhappy about the fact that a grain embargo, while at the same time it is expected to hurt the Soviet economy, high technology trade with the Soviet block.

## Schmidt argues case for early summit

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Jan 10

New impetus for an early summit between President Reagan and President Brezhnev came today from Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor.

He said that a meeting between the two leaders was needed to avert a serious miscalculation and to make the Russians understand "the guts that are behind the American President."

In a recorded interview on an ABC television news programme, Herr Schmidt told Americans: "They [the Russians] underestimate you, and this is a great danger. It can lead to miscalculations which might spell danger for all of us — for you as well as for us in West Europe, as well as for them."

President Reagan has already forecast that a summit meeting is likely to take place this year, and Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, said recently that the President believed that summit meetings might be even more necessary in times of crisis than in calm.

Today's interview was recorded during Herr Schmidt's visit to Washington last week at the end of his and President Reagan issued a joint statement asserting Soviet responsibility for events in Poland.

The interview was broadcast just as Mr Haig was leaving Washington for tomorrow's special session of Nato foreign ministers in Brussels. After this Mr Haig is travelling to Egypt and Israel.

## Truncheons for some, but 'very lax' for others

By Denis Taylor

Passengers on a charter flight from Warsaw to Heathrow Airport, London, yesterday told contrasting stories of their experiences in Poland.

Mr Steve Brent, a news agency photographer, said that special police officers beat him with rubber truncheons and hurled him against a wall as he took pictures of an anti-military demonstration in Katowice. He was released when he saw his photographer's pass.

But last Wednesday he was detained in Lodz, questioned and held in a police cell. "They pushed me around and all I had in 48 hours was a few cups of tea, I explained I had been given a visa by the Polish consul in London and at last they let me go. I was allowed to go to Warsaw but had to stay in my hotel room waiting for a plane."

A printer from Cambridge, who arrived on the same aircraft, said on the BBC Radio programme *The World This Week*: "Travelling is almost impossible as far as official permission is concerned, but travelling without permission is as easy as



Greg Midkiff, journalist for the "Sunday Mirror", due to stand trial for visa irregularities.

At its first meeting since the imposition of martial law, the Communist Party of Great Britain called for "the immediate release of the detained representatives of trade union and other democratic organizations, the restoration of democratic rights to the Polish people and a return to civilian rule."

## Moscow fears for party

Continued from page 1

parties, put to Mr Marian Wozniak from the Polish party here on Wednesday.

The Russians acknowledge that changes are essential if Poland is to become solvent. But how far change goes and how it affects ideology is a problem that will remain long after the crisis is over. For, as the Russians saw, economic relations determine the nature of communism.

The cost of a complete return to orthodoxy will be too high for the Russians and their Eastern block partners in Comecon to bear. Czechoslovakia has already shown how stagnation follows repression.

Greece has a surplus of citrus fruit this season and the Soviet block intends to buy a lot, but that hardly explains the ardour with which the issue is being handled in Athens. Wholesale condemnation of non-Communist military regimes and alleged American involvement in them, is commonplace, in spite of Greece's interests in those countries.

Opposition sources are surmising that, in return for blocking joint Western action on Poland, Athens may have secured pledges that the pro-Moscow Communist Party will restrain its militant trade unions over the Government's delicate policy.

## Greeks point finger at Turks

Mario Modiano, Athens, Jan 10

Greece is likely to block any agreement on sanctions against Poland or the Soviet Union at tomorrow's special session of Nato foreign ministers in Brussels by proposing, it is also felt, parallel sanctions against Turkey, which is also under military rule.

This as implied in a letter sent by the Government to Nato ambassadors in Athens on Friday. It expressed the view that Nato was hardly the right forum to condemn a military dictatorship, seeing that the alliance harboured one in its own ranks — meaning Turkey.

The letter outlined then context within which Mr Ioannis Karamanlis, the Greek Foreign Minister, who left for Brussels today, would be prepared to cooperate in formulating a common stand by Nato's 15 members on the Polish crisis.

Athens hopes that strong opposition by other members to the sanctions proposed by a United States draft resolution, which the Greeks will not be blamed again for the failure of a Nato meeting.

Last month it blocked a communiqué by the Defence Planning Committee and last week Mr Asimakopoulas, the Foreign Affairs Undersecretary, was dismissed for endorsing the EEC's condemnation of Soviet pressures on Poland.

The Greek Government's letter to Nato ambassadors said that while Athens denounces the imposition of martial law in Poland, sanctions could be counter-productive at a time when there were hopeful signs that the Poles might be able to work out their own problems without outside interference.

At the same time, while it is recognised that there was Soviet involvement, the Greek Government says that from the legal point of view the evidence is not strong enough to justify a further worsening of East-West relations with sanctions.

Mr Karamanlis' brief is apparently to reject the American draft, and to support an alternative text proposed by Canada, West Germany and Belgium, or the compromise draft of the Nato Secretariat, with modifications.

Western diplomats in Athens are impressed even puzzled by the strength of feeling displayed by Greece in its attitudes on Poland, which is hard to explain in terms of national interest or of ideology.

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## Begin buys off Yamit settlers with £130m

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv, Jan 10

Mr Yoram Aridor, Israel's Minister of Finance, stepped back from a threatened confrontation with Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, and flew to London on a delayed Government mission.

There had been speculation about his impending resignation when he cancelled his flight on Friday after being overruled in a heated Cabinet discussion of compensation to be paid to Israeli displaced persons and homes in Sinai by the Israeli withdrawal in April. The Cabinet voted to pay more than 4,000m Shekels (£130m) to residents of the town of Yamit and surrounding settlements. The minister's mission to Britain is to take part in a drive to sell Israeli government bonds.

Mr Begin, who had pushed through the compensation decision on Thursday by a 5-4 vote, with eight abstentions, cancelled today's scheduled weekly Cabinet meeting. His office claimed there were no urgent matters to discuss; but it was widely suspected that he wished to forestall any further discussion on the issue, which he had passed by the force of his own personality.

Abstainers and some of Mr Begin's supporters in the vote privately agreed with Mr Aridor that the compensation was too liberal and said the Government had yielded to the settlers' threats of violence.

By flying to London today, Mr Aridor was relieved of taking part in a meeting of the parliamentary finance committee, which is to decide on the expenditure. Coalition parties have a one-man majority in the committee but deputies said they will not rubber-stamp the Government's decision. Rabbi Shlomo Lorbeer, the chairman of the committee, said the committee was unlikely to reach a decision tomorrow.

## Libyans in Ghana for talks

Accra, Jan 10—Flight

Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, who led the military coup here 10 days ago, is believed to have discussed restoring diplomatic ties with Libya in his talks with Libyan officials now visiting Accra.

It said the delegation came here yesterday to express solidarity with the National Defence Council, which was set up after the civilian administration of President Hilla Limann was overthrown in the coup. Diplomatic relations between Libya and Ghana were broken off last year after alleged subversive activities by Libyan diplomats.

The agency quoted Flight-Lieutenant Rawlings as saying Ghana would cooperate with all countries, irrespective of ideological persuasion, in its struggle to build a just, equitable society. The delegation delivered greetings from the Libyan leader, Colonel Gaddafi, to Flight-Lieutenant Rawlings, but no details were given of the talks held later.

From Abidjan it is reported that Ghana's borders, ports and airports were re-opened officially yesterday, although intending air travellers have been continuously frustrated in their efforts to obtain landing permission in Accra.

## Kitson is in good health consul says

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, Jan 10

Mr Steven Kitson, the young British Rolls-Royce engineer detained by South African security police, was visited in jail yesterday by Mr Robert Miller, the British Consul in Johannesburg. The visit lasted 45 minutes and Mr Kitson was in good health.

He was arrested on Thursday after visiting his father, one of the few white members of the banned African National Congress, who is serving a 20-year sentence in Pretoria for sabotage.

Mr Kitson's friends said he had "done two little drawings while standing outside the prison waiting to see his father. He did this openly. He told us that he didn't try to conceal them when approached by the warder. Police arrested him the next day at the flat in Johannesburg where he was staying."

The South African allegations have been sharply criticized by Mr Raymond Tucker, Mr Kitson's lawyer in Johannesburg. "It is extraordinary that the Police Commissioner should be permitted to pronounce publicly on the guilt of Mr Kitson and to conduct a trial by press statement," he said.

## Spanish spy accused of checking on judge

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, Jan 10

Spain's espionage service, the Centre for Advance Defence Information Studies (CESID), found itself in the spotlight today after police alleged spying on a judge who recently sent another CESID agent to prison.

Despite a denial from the Defence Ministry that the agent's mission had anything to do with the judge, there was indignation among members of the judiciary. Doubts among members of the National Police about the veracity of the denial made front-page headlines in Madrid.

Last Thursday police detained a young man outside the Palace of Justice, the main Madrid court. He was carrying a camera in a briefcase designed to take photographs through a peephole. The man carried no documents, but turned out to be Francisco Fernández Montes, aged 21, a member of the parliamentary Civil Guard police, on one of his first missions for CESID. As he was arrested, police noticed that a white Renault 5 parked near by sped away.

Later that day, a white Renault 5 with three men in it, was parked outside the home of Señor Ricardo Varón Cobos, a judge with known right-wing sympathies, when the judge returned home.

According to reports published here, one of the men in the car was apparently taking photographs when the judge arrived. Members of the judge's police escort tried to identify the occupants of the car, but again it sped away. The licence number turned out to be false.

Early on Friday the agent was released without charges after his CESID superiors supported his story that he was on a legitimate mission. They did not say what that mission was.

A statement by the Defence Ministry, published today, said that he was on a secret mission that did not involve photographing any of the judges or employees at the Palace of Justice. It also said there was no reason to believe his actions and the mysterious men in the Renault 5.

The Ministry advised that "the publication of the identity of members of the armed forces assigned to military intelligence service is contrary to the interests of national defence and could endanger the security of the state and safety of the agents themselves."

The Liberal Madrid daily *Diario 16* said the statement was received "with scepticism in high police circles" and it alleged that the agent was involved in investigations into right-wing efforts to destabilize the post-Franco democracy. The newspaper also said that Judge Varón Cobos recently sent another CESID agent to prison for gun running. It identified that agent as José Gutiérrez and said he was highly respected in the espionage agency.

## NEWS IN SUMMARY

### Koivisto heads for victory

Helsinki—Mr Mauno Koivisto, the Finnish Prime Minister, has maintained his overwhelming opinion poll lead in the presidential election campaign. Voting will take place next Sunday and Monday. A 301-member council of electors will then choose the president on January 26. The latest poll said 56 per cent preferred Mr Koivisto, a moderate Social Democrat, to President Urho Kekkonen. The figure was 60 per cent and in late November 54 per cent in the same poll (Ole Kivinen writes).

The main non-socialist candidates came far behind. Mr Harri Holkeri, of the Conservatives, is second with 12 per cent and Mr Johannes Voutilainen of the Centre Party third with 11 per cent. The poll forecasts disaster for the badly split Communists. Their candidate received only 3 per cent support. In last year's local elections the Communists received 17 per cent of votes.

### Earth tremors hit Canada

Halifax, Canada.—Two earth tremors shook Canada's Atlantic coast and were felt in the north-east United States. No casualties were reported. Experts expressed amazement because the region has none of the geological features typical of earthquake zones.

The first tremor measured 5.5 on the Richter scale. Its epicentre was in New Brunswick, about 62 miles north of Fredericton. The United States Earthquake Control Centre in Boulder, Colorado said it was the strongest to strike that part of Canada since 1855. The second tremor had an intensity of 4.9. The Canadian Ministry of Energy, Mines and Resources said in Ottawa.

### Minister feared dead in crash



Kuala Lumpur.—Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie, the Malaysian Foreign Minister, is missing and feared dead after the wreckage of the six-seater single-engine aircraft he was flying in was found. An official statement confirmed that his aircraft had crashed into a hill near Janda Baik village, about 20 miles east of here. Unconfirmed reports later said three bodies had been found.

The minister, aged 60, was believed to be on his way to visit his constituency which he has represented for about a decade. He has been a Cabinet Minister since 1970.

### Salisbury police detain white

Salisbury.—Zimbabwe police have arrested a young white man after discovering a large arms cache here. Seventeen rifles, explosives and more than 20,000 rounds of ammunition were found. Police who found the weapons had been investigating illegal gun dealing.

The arrested man is being held incommunicado at Chikurubi prison. He brings the number of people detained under emergency regulations since October to 13, all of them white. Last week it was confirmed that three members of the Central Intelligence Organisation, the equivalent of the Special Branch, had been arrested.

### Sudan opposition leader dies

Khartoum.—Sherif Husain Hitti, chief Sudanese opposition leader, died of a heart attack, President Nimeiry said.

Mr Nimeiry said Mr Hitti died when he fell sick in Saudi Arabia where he had gone due to "his opposition to the people's revolution in Sudan". The statement did not say where Mr Hitti had died.

### Max the Kid held in Paris

Paris.—Police have arrested a 10-year-old alleged gang leader and drug addict, identified as "Max the Kid", on charges of robbing at least 150 people. He is charged with two 14-year-olds, with attacking people in the Paris Metro and Les Halles shopping complex, threatening them with razors and knuckledusters.

### China-India talks

Delhi.—India and China in May expect to hold more talks on their disputed border, a dispute that led to a war in 1967, the Press Trust of India news agency said. A first round of talks was held in Peking last month. The next round probably will be held in Delhi.

## The girl in the paper box



Tram Thi Het began her life sleeping in a cardboard box on a Saigon street. The photograph by an American war correspondent saved

her life. Eight years later a warm hug shows the love of Ms Evelyn Hall, a teacher of Springfield, Ohio, who has adopted her.



# Zia inaugurates his Islamic federal council

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad, Jan 10

An important new stage in President Zia ul-Haq's controversial programme for the Islamization of Pakistan will be reached tomorrow with the inauguration of his 287-member Federal Council.

It will meet in the offices of the National Assembly, renamed the Majlis-e-Shoora to emphasize the religious nature of the new council.

All the members have been nominated after a prolonged screening from district level upwards by provincial governors and the President's own representatives. General Zia has described his nominees as "respectable, honest religious men wedded to the Pakistan ideology".

The members are supposed to be non-political, but most of them have a political background and the majority belonged to various factions of the Muslim League or the Pakistan People's Party. Few are front-rank politicians.

Other major interests represented are traders, religious bodies, the press and industrialists. There are a few women and non-Muslims. The President says the council is not a substitute for an elected body, yet the state-controlled media give the impression that it is the precursor of an Islamic system being planned by the Council of Islamic Ideology.

The presidential order establishing the Federal Council makes it clear it will function only with the President's agreement and that it will serve as an advisory body on legislative, administrative and fiscal matters without the power of veto on government decisions.

The Federal Council follows General Zia's attempts in the past four years to broaden the base of his regime under martial law. Several important leaders including Mr. Abdul Wali Khan, former leader of the Opposition during Bhutto's time, the late Mr. Mustafa Jatoi, the late Mr. Bhutto's lieutenant and former Sind Chief Minister, Air Marshal



Asghar Khan, Tehrike Istiqlal leader were said to have been asked to form a government under General Zia, but it is believed they insisted on a plan for elections and the total transfer of power to the elected Parliament and its Government.

General Zia has insisted that internal and external conditions, especially the continuing Afghan crisis and what he sees as India's belligerent attitude makes it impossible to order a general election in Pakistan.

General Zia wishes to appoint another 63 people to the council. The complexion of the present council shows that great care has been taken in filling the seats to satisfy the demands of different tribes, clans and other vested interests which dominate Pakistan's feudal society.

With luck, which General Zia never seems to lack, the new political system may help him to rule without serious challenge for quite some time.

## Shootout in Tirana a headache for Hoxha

From Dessa Trevisan, Belgrade, Jan 10

With the Albanian Parliament due to meet this week to rubber-stamp a successor to Mehmet Shehu, attention is still focused on his mysterious death and the secrecy that has surrounded subsequent developments.

Last month the long-serving Prime Minister was reported to have committed suicide. The regime appeared to respond with anger to his death and he was denied state honours.

Mr. Enver Hoxha, the party leader, has not been seen in public since then and reports reaching here say his portrait has been removed from public places. Some indication of his standing may come tomorrow at the ceremony marking Albania's post-war proclamation of its People's Republic. The highest dignitaries usually attend.

The identity of the new prime minister is intriguing because it will signify what direction Albania will go.

After the break with China in 1978 the withdrawal of aid had an adverse economic effect on a country that has the lowest per capita income in Europe. A new approach was needed and lately there have been timid indications of a desire to open up, primarily towards West Europe. At the last party congress there was a change with regard to West Germany — Albania no longer insisted on war reparations as a condition for diplomatic relations. Even in relations with Britain, over which the return of Albanian gold is still a main obstacle, there is a more flexible attitude, though Tirana insists on the gold being returned before diplomatic relations can be resumed.

Shehu's name was linked with a more open policy, but there is still much that remains unclear.

Another question is the fate of Mr. Shehu's widow Mrs. Ekrem Shkabaj, who, along with Ramiz Alia, Politburo member and now the second man of Albanian party, was in charge of ideology. She has enforced the rigid line and has often been spoken of as the woman of iron.

She is party secretary of Tirana, the capital, which suggests that she has a strong power base. She is also the head of the party school at the central committee which means that the new generation of leaders is chosen after her recommendation. But her future, too, is now affected because of the disapproval of Mr. Shehu.

Rumours about how Shehu died abound. It has been suggested that he was killed in a shoot-out. According to this version, a meeting of the two Albanian leaders had been called for on the night of December 17. Shehu pulled a gun on Mr. Hoxha and was shot instantly. Another report said Mr. Hoxha was shot and injured by the Minister of Defence.

Family ties and tribal loyalties play a crucial part in the Hoxha hierarchy. During the various purges connected with Albania's shifting alliances, the executions of political opponents often meant liquidation of their families, too.

The late Prime Minister had personally executed many of Mr. Hoxha's political opponents.

The Soviet Union has been making peace overtures for many years and offers to establish diplomatic relations at least once a year, usually on the eve of Albania's national day.

There is little likelihood that Albania will move in the Soviet direction while Mr. Hoxha is in power. It would mean loss of face and in Albania, where face is more important than anything else, it would be the end of him. It is believed that the Soviet Union is trying to effect a rapprochement by proxy. Vietnam is the only Communist country which maintains a close relationship with Tirana.



1882: Sylvia Pankhurst born; the Law Courts opened; A. A. Milne, creator of Pooh, born; Geoffrey de Havilland, Mosquito inventor, born

Charles Robert Maturin, Irish writer of Gothic romances was born, 1782. John Bunyan's *The Holy War*, was published, 1682. F. Anstey's *Vice Versa* and Richard Jefferies's *Bevis* were published, 1882. The Church Army was founded, 1882.

### JANUARY

- 1 Johann Christian Bach, German composer, died, 1782.
- 3 William Harrison Ainsworth, novelist, died, 1882.
- 5 Robert Morrison, missionary to China, born, 1782.
- 6 Richard Henry Dana, American writer, died, 1882.
- 13 Peter Dawson, Australian singer, born, 1882.
- 18 Alan Alexander Milne, writer of children's stories, born, 1882.
- 20 John Linnell, painter, died, 1882.
- 25 Virginia Woolf, critic and novelist, born, 1882.
- First meeting of The London Chamber of Commerce, 1882.
- 29 Daniel Auber, French composer, born, 1782.
- 30 Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 32nd President of the USA, born, 1882.
- 31 Anna Pavlova, Russian prima ballerina, born, 1882.



Anna Pavlova

### FEBRUARY

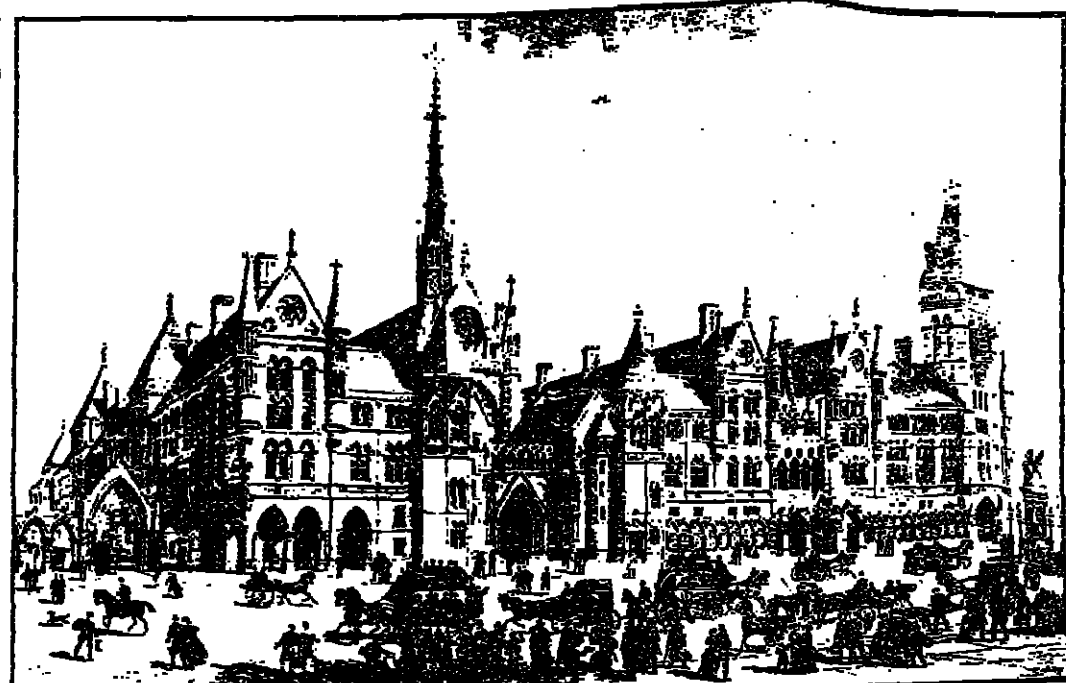
- 2 James Joyce, Irish novelist, born, 1882. James Stephens, Irish poet, born, 1882.



Portrait of James Joyce by Wyndham Lewis

- 13 Thomas Thynne of Longleat, assassinated, 1682.
- 14 George Jean Nathan, American writer, born, 1882.
- 15 John Barrymore, American actor, born, 1882.
- 20 Luca Della Robbia, Italian sculptor, died, 1482.
- 22 Eric Gill, sculptor, and typographer, born, 1882.
- 25 Alessandro Stradella, Italian composer, died, 1682.

# Anniversaries of 1982



### MARCH



- 2 Attempted assassination of Queen Victoria at Windsor Station by Frederick Maclean, 1882.
- 14 Jacob van Ruysdael, Dutch painter, died, 1682.
- 18 Ralph Lynn, comedy actor, born, 1882. Gian Francesco Malipiero, Italian composer, born, 1882.
- 19 George Charles ("Boatswain") Smith, founder of seamen's missions, born, 1782.
- 24 Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, American poet, died, 1882.
- 25 Haydn Wood, composer, born, 1882.
- 28 Frederick Nash, painter, born, 1882.
- 29 Dora Greenwell, essayist and poet, died, 1882.
- 30 Sicilian Vespers — the massacre of the French in Sicily, 1282. Melanie Klein, Austrian psycho-analyst, born, 1882.

### APRIL

- 2 Deneys Reitz, South African soldier and writer, born, 1882.
- 3 Bartolome Murillo, Spanish painter, died, 1682. Jesse James, American outlaw, murdered, 1882.
- 8 Phineas Fletcher, poet, baptized, 1582.



- 9 Dante Gabriel Rossetti, painter and poet, died, 1882.
- 12 Antonio Metastasio, Italian poet and dramatist, died, 1782.
- 15 Jan van Eyck, Dutch painter, born, 1382.
- 16 William Jerdan, Scottish journalist, born, 1882.
- 17 Arthur Schnabel, Austrian pianist, born, 1882.
- 18 Leopold Stokowski, American (English-born) conductor, born, 1882.
- 19 Charles Darwin, naturalist, died, 1882.
- 21 Friedrich Wilhelm Froebel, German philosopher and educator, born, 1782.
- 24 Hugh Caswell Dowding, 1st Baron Dowding, Air Chief Marshal, born, 1882.
- 27 Ralph Waldo Emerson, American philosopher, poet and essayist, died, 1882.
- 29 John Nelson Darby, founder of the Darbyite sect of the Plymouth Brethren, died, 1882.

### MAY

- 5 Sir Douglas Mawson, scientist and explorer, born, 1882. Sylvia Pankhurst, militant suffragette, born, 1882.
- 6 Murder of Lord Frederick Cavendish and Thomas Henry Burke, by Fenians in Phoenix Park, Dublin, 1882.
- 13 Georges Braque, French Painter, born, 1882.
- 15 Richard Wilson, painter, died, 1782.
- 16 John Sell Cotman, painter, born, 1782.
- 20 Sigrid Undset, Norwegian novelist, born, 1882.

### JUNE

- 1 John Drinkwater, poet and dramatist, born, 1882.
- 2 Giuseppe Garibaldi, Italian patriot, died, 1882.
- 3 James Thomson, poet, author of *The City of Dreadful Night*, died, 1882.
- 12 Cecilia, by Fanny Burney, published, 1782. Charles Waterton, naturalist, born, 1782.



- 17 Igor Stravinsky, Russian composer, born, (O.S. 5th), 1882.
- 21 Rockwell Kent, American painter, born, 1882.
- 25 Joachim Raff, German composer, died, 1882.
- 29 Joseph Hansom, architect and inventor, died, 1882.

### JULY

- 8 Percy Grainger, Australian composer, born, 1882. Hubert Knight Browne ("Phiz"), artist and book illustrator, died, 1882.



- 12 Jean Picard, French astronomer, born, 1682.
- 22 Edward Hopper, American painter, born, 1882.
- 26 Harold Brighouse, dramatist born, 1882. John Field, Irish composer, born, 1782.
- 27 Sir Geoffrey de Havilland, aircraft designer and manufacturer, born, 1882.

### AUGUST

- 10 Sir Charles James Napier, soldier, born, 1782.
- 13 William Stanley Jevons, economist, died, 1882.
- 18 Married Women's Property Act, passed, 1882.



Sinking of the Royal George

- 27 Sam Goldwyn, American film producer, born, 1882.
- 29 Sinking of the Royal George at Spithead, with an estimated loss of 800 lives. Australia acquired The Ashes in beating England by 7 runs at the Oval, 1882.

### SEPTEMBER

- 7 Susan Ferrier, Scottish novelist, born, 1782.
- 16 Edward Bouverie Pusey, divine, died, 1882.
- 19 John Wroe, founder of the Christian Israelites, born, 1782.
- Richard Lower, poet, born, 1882.
- 29 George Buchanan, historian, died, 1582.

### OCTOBER

- 1582 William Juxon, Archbishop of Canterbury, born. 1682 *MacFlecknoe* by John Dryden, published.
- 4 St. Theresa of Avila, Spanish nun, died, 1582.
- 5 Spain and Portugal became the first countries to adopt the Gregorian calendar, this day becoming October 15, 1582.
- 6 Karol Szymanowski, Polish composer, born, 1882.
- 8 Harold Armand Moody, founder of the League of Coloured Peoples, born, 1882.
- 14 Eamon De Valera, President of the Irish Republic, born, 1882.
- 19 Sir Thomas Browne, physician and writer, died, 1682.
- 24 Dame Sybil Thorne, actress, born, 1882.
- 27 Niccolò Paganini, Italian violinist, born, 1782.



Dame Sybil Thorne the actress

### NOVEMBER

- 9 Percy Wyndham Lewis, writer and painter, born, 1882.
- 18 Jacques Maritain, French philosopher, born, 1882.
- 21 Claude Lorrain, French Painter, died, 1682.

### DECEMBER

- Two on a Tower by Thomas Hardy was published, 1882.
- 3 Archibald Campbell Tait, Archbishop of Canterbury, died, 1882.
- 4 The Law Courts, Strand, London. Designed by George Street, opened, 1882.
- 5 Martin van Buren, 8th President of the USA, born, 1782.
- 6 Jen Charles Blanc, French socialist, died, 1882. Anthony Trollope, novelist, died, 1882.
- 9 Joaquin Turina, Spanish composer, born, 1882.
- 11 Max Born, German physicist, born, 1882. Llewellyn AB Gruffydd, Prince of Wales, killed in battle, 1282.
- 16 Zoltan Kodaly, Hungarian composer, born, 1882. Sir Jack Hobbs, cricketer, born, 1882.
- 23 James Gibbs, Scottish architect, born, 1682.
- 28 Sir Arthur Eddington, astrophysicist, born, 1882.

## Singapore holds 10 for plotting

From David Watts, Singapore, Jan 10

The Singapore authorities have arrested 10 members of an alleged clandestine group suspected of planning to overthrow the Government by force, according to an official announcement.

All 10 have been held under the Internal Security Act, which provides for indefinite detention without trial. The group, which includes members of the opposition Workers' Party, had allegedly planned to solicit support from foreign powers including manpower and finance.

The Workers' Party won a by-election at the end of October to break the People's Action Party's monopoly hold on the Singapore Parliament for the first time for 16 years. The group is said to be led by Mr. Zatul Abidin bin Muhammad Shah.

Those arrested belong to a group called the Organisasi Pembetahan Rakyat Singapura or the People's Liberation Organization of Singapore, according to the Government announcement.

At least two of them were arrested after they tried to distribute pamphlets containing alleged seditious statements during a Muslim rally at the Singapore National Stadium on Saturday, to mark the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad.

The Government statement said that "to achieve its objective, the group planned to create communal unrest by distributing pamphlets and carrying out acts of arson."

## China steps cautiously in Hongkong

Hongkong, Jan 10 — Chinese leaders are studying the problem of Hongkong's lease to Britain, but do not wish to take any steps harmful to the colony, Mr. Humphrey Atkins, the Deputy Foreign Secretary said here today.

Speaking after a four-day visit to China, Mr. Atkins said Chinese leaders recognized the need to solve the issue of the lease, which expires in 1997 leaving most of Hongkong's territory under Chinese rule.

"Now, it is very clear to me that they are addressing their minds to this problem and they recognize that it is not possible simply for everybody to do nothing," he said.

Chinese leaders would consider the economic advantages of Hongkong as a financial centre in deciding its future. "They did, in fact, say that the prosperity of Hongkong must not be damaged and that they would not want to do anything like that," he said. He later flew to Seoul, for a four-day visit. —AP.

□ The Hongkong authorities have been warned by 120 newly-arrived refugees from Vietnam that a fresh exodus can be expected when the weather improves (Richard Hughes writes).

The new arrivals, mostly young Vietnamese, who caused surprise by their arrival last week, told Hongkong camp authorities that living conditions in North and South Vietnam were becoming worse. "Nine out of 10 want to leave," one refugee from North Vietnam said.

## 1,000 at a Nanjing Matins

## Runcie on bridges and Bibles

From David Bonavia, Nanjing, Jan 10

A Chinese Christian woman wiped tears from her eyes here when Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, talked of the role of the church as a bridge among nations. He was speaking at a tea party held in his honour yesterday.

During a two-day visit, originally intended to be a private one, he visited the local seminary, went sight-seeing, and had talks with Bishop Ding Guangxun of the diocese of Nanjing. After celebrating holy communion privately at the guest-house here, Dr Runcie left for Hongkong too early to attend matins, which was conducted by a Chinese woman pastor before a packed congregation of about a thousand people.

Services are also held on Saturdays to meet public demand and to accommodate Christians who have to work on Sundays.

At the tea party Dr Runcie and his party were entertained by a Chinese girl playing the accordion, a

violinist and a singer, and he joined in enthusiastically when they sang "Auld Lang Syne," which has been enjoying a vogue in China.

Asked by correspondents about his views on Bible-smuggling, Dr Runcie said he had satisfied himself that religious texts were becoming increasingly available in China, and added that smuggling was "unhelpful if it creates the idea that the only way to get a Bible is if it is smuggled in." He added that he often felt that "the smuggling in of Bibles gives more satisfaction to those who smuggle them than to those who receive them."

Throughout his visit Dr Runcie has been careful not to offend the sensitivities of the Chinese authorities with regard to religion as a possible tool of subversion by foreign powers. The Roman Catholic Church in China rejects the authority of the Vatican, and four Roman Catholic priests were recently arrested in Shanghai.

Asked about this, Bishop Ding said the facts would be made clear at the trial. He added: "I don't think we have the right to assume that no religious person may be put in jail."

Dr Runcie said in a prepared statement that Chinese Christians should be free to work out their own form of "Christianity with a Chinese face," he referred to the persecution of believers in the Cultural Revolution as "painful and difficult."

Protestants in China, including Anglicans, have been amalgamated into a Christian Council, which proclaims the ideals of "self-government, self-support and self-propagation." Only some minor denominations have refused to join.

There was no doubt about the piety of the people attending today's service. The majority were elderly women. But there was a fair sprinkling of men and several score young people.



Roger Boyes sends his first report from Warsaw since censorship was lifted

## Disentangling the cold truth about Poland's internees

What is the truth about internment in Poland? What has happened to the thousands of people picked up by the police since the introduction of martial law a month ago? Nudged into a response by the defection of Polish ambassadors who strongly criticized the internment policy — the government has issued a crop of facts and figures.

Unfortunately these facts and figures do not tally with estimates made by western embassies or the Church. How is one to establish the truth in a country that does not allow foreign correspondents to leave the capital, that has cut off the telephone system and makes the spreading of "false information" a criminal offence punishable by up to eight years imprisonment? The answer seems to be that people stop asking questions like "what is true?" at least in public — and choose instead to believe even the wildest rumour rather than the government version.

Here are two versions of what is happening. The first is that of Poles, most of whom are either Solidarity activists or people fundamentally in sympathy with the aims of Solidarity and the political reform movement as a whole.

The government declares that there are "only" 5,069 internees, some of whom are being released.

They are, the government says, kept in basically good conditions and allowed food parcels and visits from their families; work in their camps is voluntary and its only objective, as Mr Jerzy Urban, the government spokesman, put it recently, is to "break down the momentum of the day". There is no question, he said, of anybody being accommodated in tents or in the open.

Some internees are free to go after signing a document saying they will "discontinue their participation in anti-socialist activities". The declaration is thus partially an admission of guilt and violation of its terms could theoretically lead to re-arrest — for anti-socialist activities — and formal charges.

The diplomatic and Church view differs fundamentally from this line. At least two embassies, assisted by rare consular trips to the provinces, have come to the conclusion that some 15,000 people are being detained. This, they say, is a conservative estimate and is a stable figure, taking into account that while some people are being released, others are being arrested. The Church, which has taken over responsibility for feeding some of the internees, believes there are more than 15,000, though it has not given a figure.

The Polish episcopate has claimed that conditions in many of the camps are bad — many

cells are unheated (the temperature at the time of writing is minus 12 degrees Centigrade). The detainees are often inadequately clothed (a number were arrested in their pyjamas), conditions are crowded and little water is available. Two eyewitness accounts made available to me at least partially support this picture.

Before Christmas the Church had a further complaint: it had about 500 food parcels to deliver but the authorities had allowed the delivery of only about 50. The situation has eased somewhat since then and few complaints have been made about food shortages — the internees are issued with meat coupons which are handed to relatives who can supply the food to supplement the iron rations. Some people are also being issued with clothing coupons but these are of only limited value because of shortages in the shops, with or without coupons.

The gulf between the two versions seems on the face of it to be irreconcilable but it is possible to explain at least some of the discrepancies. First, the government version accounts only for internees — that is people who have been rounded up, but not charged under martial law. The government spokesman more or less admits that there have been arrests over and above the

internments but seemed to indicate that the number was in the hundreds rather than the thousands.

But PAP, the official news agency, daily reports the arrest of strike organizers and Solidarity activists, giving the impression that a large number of people are involved. It is thus conceivable that the diplomatic estimate of 15,000 includes internees, those detained pending investigation into specific charges and those arrested and formally charged.

Second, it is clear that internees are being held in widely different conditions. Those for intellectuals and Solidarity leaders seem quite reasonable. The Solidarity leaders held at Strzebielino, near Gdynia, are allowed one visit a month and live in a room; but they are in good spirits, argue constantly about the government position, and are said to have demoralized four

warders so profoundly that they have requested transfers. Mr Lech Walesa is said to be under house arrest outside Warsaw, he has access to colour television and is regularly visited by a priest.

Other internees, however, are being treated abysmally, as many priests have testified. It is impossible to confirm stories of cold water being poured over prisoners but some internees were certainly beaten up when arrested and many need warm clothing. Mr Urban conceded at a recent news conference that "some internees may have forgotten to bring clothing".

Conditions then may be tolerable for some and bad for others. Without leaning too far towards the government position, it is clear that there has been a degree of exaggeration in word-of-mouth

descriptions of internee conditions. The government, however, has brought this down on itself. A wife whose husband does not arrive home would normally be calm, the weather is bad, the transport system is at best haphazard, petrol in short supply. But without a telephone, without any means of contact, relatives assume the worst and pass their fears on to their neighbours. By the time the husband safely arrives, having perhaps been caught in a snow-drift, he has already become a statistic on the rumour chain.

But, in the absence of credible, checkable information, rumour fills the news vacuum, that is how figures like 50,000 — the most dramatic estimate of internees Poles — come into being. Most western military experts contend that the army and the militia are still too stretched to guard and feed that number. Yet even if the true figure is closer to

Solidarity activists in a detention centre near Warsaw. For them conditions are reasonable, but not for thousands of others

15,000 or 5,000, the Polish government still has a case to answer. That is a lot of people to hold without trial.

The Military Council clearly believe that some suppression of human rights is a necessary precondition of stamping out potential political opposition, restoring "law and order" and putting the economy back on its feet. But the immediate western response has shown that it stands to lose more than it gains by keeping these people under lock and key. It was upset by the Vatican attack on the internment policy and seriously worried when Henryk Jablonski, General Secretary of the West German Foreign Ministry, made exactly the same criticisms. Poland needs West Germany at the moment for Bonn is the key to maintaining a dialogue with its western creditors and keeping the doors open to West Europe at a time when the US administration is leaning on Moscow and Warsaw.

The Council may be tempted to justify its round-up by staging show trials and charging the Solidarity leaders with organizing a coup attempt, the standard account of events in the official media. But Solidarity at its high point consisted of 10 million members, only a fraction of whom are interned: the Council needs a way of talking to these people and persuading them to return to work.

Show trials will not achieve that. Only a quiet admission that internment was ill judged, a recognition that even the army has its limitations, and the release of the five or 15 or 50 thousand will convince the Polish people that it is possible to talk to the Council and not just curse it.

## Dear commuter . . .

The public will be aware from media coverage that Aslef has recently instituted industrial action, having instructed its members on British Rail to refuse to work voluntary overtime and rest days and not to book on for duty on January 13 and 14. However, because of many misleading reports which have been circulated, I feel, as general secretary of the Society, that in the light of the important issues at stake, there is a need to set the record straight. Let me therefore present the facts.

Negotiations on the 1981 pay round for railway workers were due to be completed in time for new rates of pay to be introduced as from April 1981. The offer then made by the British Railways Board to the three railway trade unions was totally unacceptable; after a breakdown of negotiations at the Railway Staff National Council, the industry's senior negotiating body, all the unions decided that the pay claims should be referred to the industry's independent arbitration body (the Railway Staff National Tribunal), which sat on June 8, 1981, under the chairmanship of Lord McCarthy.

The outcome was an award by the tribunal for the rates of pay of railwaymen/women to be raised by 3 per cent from April 20, 1981, with a further increase of 3 per cent from August 1, 1981. All three unions accepted the arbitrator's findings, even though the award was substantially lower than the claims submitted, but the British Railways Board took the unprecedented step of stating that they were not prepared to introduce the pay recommendations.

Subsequently, following discussions between representatives of the Board and the unions at the Railway Staff National Council on August 2, 1981, it was decided that, in the light of the Board's intransigence, industrial action should be instituted.

After this decision, the Advisory, Conciliation and



An open letter from Ray Buckton, general secretary of Aslef

Arbitration Service intervened. Prolonged discussions between the Board and the unions resulted in two separate agreements on pay and on productivity.

The agreement on pay was in line with the award of the national tribunal: an 8 per cent increase from April 20 and a further 3 per cent from August 1981. This agreement was specific and unconditional, and this is supported by the fact that the British Railways Board later issued a general circular instructing how the new rates of pay should be implemented; for instance, circular letter No 121 dated September, 1981, which informed staff of the arrangements for the payment of the 3 per cent from January 1982 (backdated to August, 1981).

A separate understanding on productivity provided for discussions to be resumed within the railway negotiation machinery, which for footplate staff is the locomotive section of the Railway Staff Joint Council. This is the accepted method by which both management and unions may pursue to a higher level their disagreements.

Aslef have attempted to use this procedure to discuss the issue with railway management, but the BR Board

have consistently refused to use this machinery. Instead it has unscrupulously tried to bind the two separate issues together, despite the Acas agreement.

Recent developments in the dispute are that on December 23 the BR Board told the rail unions that because it considered there had not been sufficient progress on certain productivity matters, it would not pay footplate staff the agreed 3 per cent increase. This has resulted in the present situation.

The Board's totally unprecedented move to dishonour the settlement gave Aslef no option but to take action to safeguard its members' interests.

The Board's action was, to say the least, disreputable and brings into question the validity of the industry's negotiating machinery. It is, having followed the stated procedures and failing to reach agreement, remitted its claims for independent arbitration and conciliation. The BR Board has unilaterally reneged on an agreement, using as a pretext for its action Aslef's alleged refusal to make progress on productivity, particularly over the issue of flexible rostering, which would bring about the elimination of a guaranteed eight-hour day, a principle enjoyed by most British workers.

Finally, let me state that Aslef is willing to enter into constructive talks at any time to end this dispute. I have written this letter to some length so that you may have a better understanding of the issues which divide Aslef and the BR Board. There is a clear attempt to blackmail Aslef into agreeing to arrangements which would not be acceptable to its membership or indeed to most British workers.

I am therefore sorry for any inconvenience suffered by commuters, though I feel sure that having considered what has been said in this letter, there will be a better understanding of the issues. Yours sincerely, Ray Buckton

A married man of 29 raped the 15-year-old who was baby-sitting for him. His good character and position in the community persuaded the judge to suspend his sentence.

The appeal court took a different view. The judge had considered only the interests of the accused; he had neglected the impact of the experience on the girl, and the duty of the court to deter others. An effective sentence of three years imprisonment was substituted.

This case was tried in Ontario, in England the original sentence would stand. Almost every decision which an English judge makes is subject to appellate review, with one exception. An excessively lenient sentence, which fails to reflect the public interest, cannot be challenged in a higher court.

The only appeal is to public opinion, denunciation in the press and the public and the removal of the judge take place of the dispassionate analysis of the facts and the reasons for the judge's decision which a review in a higher court would provide.

The case for a change is demonstrated not merely by those apparently lenient sentences which capture the attention of the public and which, left unexplained, weaken confidence in the legal system — a fine in a case of rape, a suspended sentence in a tax fraud involving millions, or relatively short terms of imprisonment for the manslaughter of a young man whose unconscious body was put in a river.

Many less well-known cases daily illustrate the deficiency of the law. The most popular argument (with appeals) in sentence appeals is that the appellant's sentence is too severe by general standards, but that his co-defendant has received an unusually lenient sentence, and the difference in their treatment is an injustice. There is no satisfactory answer — the appeal court can correct one disparity only by creating another.

## After the rape fine, the case for changing the system

by David Thomas

Another common problem is the dangerously unstable offender who has received a determinate sentence: from which he will be released by a fixed date, rather than the indefinite sentence which would have authorized his detention until he can safely be discharged. There is no way such a sentence can be corrected.

Why is legal opinion generally so firmly against the idea of a prosecution appeal on sentence? None of the arguments against the proposal stands up to close analysis.

● A prosecution appeal on sentence would be a form of double jeopardy. This is unconvincing — a prosecution appeal from a jury's verdict of not guilty would be a different matter.

● A prosecution appeal would subject the defendant to a further period of anxiety and stress after his trial is over. This is true, but the defendant is not the only one with a legitimate interest in the outcome of the case. The present system leaves the grievances of the victim and the general public unresolved indefinitely.

● Why should it matter if a few excessively lenient sentences are passed, when so many crimes go undetected? This misses the point: the sentence of a court is a formal value judgment on the conduct in question, which may set standards or affect attitudes throughout the community.

● The prosecution has no responsibility in sentencing and therefore it would be inappropriate to allow the prosecution to appeal. This is the least persuasive argument of all, confusing as it does the role of the advocate for the prosecution in court with the responsibility of the prosecuting authority. Consider the Crown's duty to make submissions on sentence, but the whole purpose of a criminal prosecution is to secure the imposition of a sentence on the alleged offender. At every stage in the process — the choice of charge, the choice of mode of trial — decisions made by the

prosecuting authority are based on an assessment of the gravity of the alleged offence and the likely penalty in the event of conviction.

There would be no inconsistency in allowing the prosecuting authority to apply for leave to appeal against sentence, and such a change need not affect the role of counsel for the Crown in the court of trial.

● Allowing the prosecution to appeal would lead to longer sentences, when prisoners are already grossly overcrowded in our prisons. This is a common argument, but it is based on a misunderstanding of the way the system works. The converse is true — appeals by the prosecution are more likely to lead to wider use of non-custodial measures. The case law of sentencing in England, though rich in detail, is weakened by its concentration on sentences of imprisonment. Decisions on such measures as probation are few and far between. In a system which allows an appeal solely to the defendant, only the more severe sentences will be challenged, and the development of principle will be limited to them.

Nine years after the introduction of community service orders, appellate decisions examining their use can be counted on the fingers of one hand. A challenge by the prosecution to such an order made by a trial court would provide an opportunity for an authoritative discussion of the relevant criteria.

An Ontario court suspended the sentence on a pop star charged with possessing heroin on condition he gave a concert for charity and underwent treatment. The sentence was challenged by the prosecution, but the appeal court upheld it, saying the accused's efforts towards rehabilitation were a good reason for a general deterrent. What might have remained no more than an isolated decision of a trial judge became an authoritative precedent for future cases.

David Thomas is the author of *Principles of Sentencing*.

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Pop singer Keith Richard . . . his case helped set a legal precedent.

## Streisand tipped to star in The White Hotel

Mr D. M. Thomas, whose admirable novel *The White Hotel* was one of the runners-up in last year's Booker Prize competition, is off to the United States tomorrow for a six-month spell teaching "creative writing" and modern British poetry and fiction at the American University in Washington DC. Over the weekend he later told me that apart from taking the opportunity to promote the American sales of his book, which goes into paperback in March, he also hopes to talk to multi-millionaire land developer turned film producer, Keith Barish, who has bought the film rights to *The White Hotel*.

Barish produced *Endless Love* which was directed by Zeffirelli and starred Brooke Shields, and also owns the rights to William Styron's *Sophie's Choice*, in which Meryl Streep will play Sophie. Thomas tells me that there is a persistent and, he hopes, "well-founded" rumour that Barish Streisand will play the role of his book's heroine, Lisa Erdman, a half-Jewish opera singer. "I believe that Miss Streisand got very interested about the possibility of playing the role very early on," he said. "She appears to have seen it as a new development for her."

**Science practical**  
I have now had quite a few letters from distinguished academics, and one from a Bishop, with their

## THE TIMES DIARY

Capitalizing on its central role in reporting the Polish crisis, the Government is submitting a multi-million pound plan for revitalizing its monitoring service of foreign broadcasts. The service, which is based at a millionaire's converted mansion at Caversham in deepest Berkshire, has undergone little change since it was founded there early in the second World War. It is funded directly by the Foreign Office which like the BBC newsrooms, has immediate access to its round-the-clock transcripts of

radio output in sensitive parts of the world. Some of its material is also sold commercially to a range of clients that include embassies, universities, newspapers and American television networks. Since the introduction of martial law in Poland, Monitoring has gained 16 new clients.

Yet, partly due to its remoteness, the service has long been treated as a poor relation by its London paymasters. The new BBC proposals, which will be put before the Foreign Office in the autumn, aim to modernize the system and convert it to an electronic form of distribution.

views about practical insights received by the social sciences, and I hope to give space to several of them during the week. For today, however, I bring you a mini-scoop what is described as a "first tawdry" from within the Social Science Research Council's own offices.

This is not a corporate entry, as it were, from the council itself but I gather that there has been some discussion in the SSRC office among staff and academics on how social science can be measured within its constrained limits. "In child care, the work of John Bowlby, consultant psychiatrist at the Tavistock Clinic or 25 years, which has demonstrated the importance of the very early years of child care. In economics, W. E. G. Salter's work on the relation between

capital investment and productivity improvement in industry shows that rapidly growing industries would have a younger average vintage of capital equipment, lower costs per unit, and higher profitability. An important aspect of this finding was that wages do not necessarily increase proportionately with productivity, industry by industry."

● Christopher Foster (LSE) and Michael Beasley (London Business School), in their important work of cost benefit analysis in transport investment, helped to lay the foundation for the investment in road improvement in this country over the last decades. ● As for getting it right five years ago Birbeck College's Professor Richard Fortes (whose theoretical and econometric re-

search on the centrally planned economies has been financed by SSRC) foresaw the economic and social problems arising from heavy East European borrowing in the West, writing in 1977 that "the economic strategy chosen (by Poland) in 1971-72 is clearly compromised, and with it Poland's ability to avert debt default by the end of the decade". His subsequent analysis of the Polish crisis (published by Chatham House a year ago) has significantly influenced West European policy.

I am sure that many people are simply unaware of many of these practical achievements of the social sciences and hope that, despite the relatively restricted space at my disposal, a few judiciously chosen paragraphs will be of use to some of these few paragraphs.

## Quiz answers

1. Miss Helen Roe, who ran up on to the pitch during the England v Australia rugby match, but from David a spelling bee.
2. At a meeting of the MEDC last week the CAT and YUC called for retention of the economy.
3. The Polish authorities put hundreds of thousands of people in the forests of Devon and Cornwall, in response to this up an academic problem.
4. A decision to walk over the proposed extension of shipping services blocked the extension of the service.
5. David Pridemore and John Brown were sentenced to "fines" to sort out the damaged manuscript.
6. The British Government at the Court has been accused of "falsely" claiming that the ship was a British ship.
7. Lord Greville's Associated Communications Corporation is facing a battle with shareholders over compensation to be paid to the damaged manuscript.
8. The British Government at the Court has been accused of "falsely" claiming that the ship was a British ship.
9. The British Government at the Court has been accused of "falsely" claiming that the ship was a British ship.
10. The first British-built Taurus missile was completed at Coventry last Monday.

## Candice amplifies

Despite being stranded in the snow near Bedford, rescued, having to break into my country house because the locks had frozen, and then having to dig my car out of the drift yesterday, the most disconcerting part of the weekend was, without doubt, lunch with Candice Bergen and Placido Domingo.

Close up, both these stars are even more shimmering than a field of virgin snow — warmer, too. By mutual agreement we didn't talk about Miss Bergen's new film, *Rich and Famous*, which opens this week and in which she stars with Jacqueline Bisset. Miss Bergen (who is also, of course, Mrs Louis Malle) had spent the week talking about the film with lesser mortals and had had enough. Once again my pairing of two quite different stars was fortuitous — they had been dying to meet one another for ages — so I just sat back, tucked into the "Mirabelle's mouth-watering, gnocchi, and listened.

Miss Bergen has no films on the horizon — or even over it. Living on Central Park South in New York, she is enjoying her (relatively) new marriage and trying to finish a book about her father, Edgar Bergen, the famous ventriloquist. The research for this has made her something of an expert on vaudeville and, in between oysters, she gave us the run-down on crooning. I didn't know, for instance, that this particular type of singing began because in America the early microphones were very shaky affairs and too many loud or high

notes ruined them. Apparently, at one point singers even put impediments over the microphones when using them to help protect the delicate instrument from too strident voices. What with the masking effect of the shades and the low voices, there was no alternative to crooning.

Her father's vaudeville sidekick was called Charley Chase. McCarthy, became a household name in America and Miss Bergen got used to being asked if she was wooden too. Before long, though, she had her rigiste, line from Joseph Proust's *Pericles*: "Children need models rather than critics." Good for her.

Domingo, after inviting us all to see him and Renata Scott in *La Bohème* at the Met in February, as well as his first night in *The Tales of Hoffman* at Covent Garden a week today, told us about his film plans: He is to star opposite Julie Andrews in



A meeting of voices: Candice Bergen and Placido Domingo

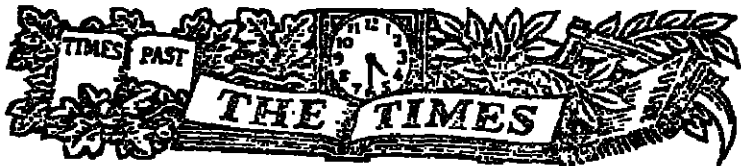
*The Merry Widow* later this year, though apparently Miss Andrews isn't too happy with the script at the moment and somewhat will be made to turn it into a play about producing *The Merry Widow*. Domingo, who, unlike Miss Bergen (and myself for that matter), is fully booked until 1985, has just cancelled to sing in his native Spain during the World Cup in the summer. He already has tickets for five games and so the talk naturally turned to soccer, then to American football, then to baseball. Apparently Mr Domingo is one of the few opera stars to have performed at the New York Yankee stadium, where he tried to show them how to sing the American National anthem *God Bless America*. He says it can be quite a beautiful song if performed in this way — then proceeded to demonstrate. You can guess what happened: a microphone cleverly hidden in the lamppost shattered so Mr Domingo rather hurriedly, Mr Domingo had rehearsal. Miss Bergen went off to the BBC and I had my appointment with a Gloucestershire snowdrift.

## Soft cell

David Wolfe, the wine writer, has sent me these instructions which he found on a tube of Elnett Satin hairspray: "Spray from a distance of about 12 inches so as to ensure even distribution throughout the hair." I decided it must be for people who have had their brains washed and can't do a thing with them.

Peter Watson





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## WHO WILL APPEAL TO THE MINERS?

The ballot of the coal miners this week will, if it goes the wrong way, make the blizzard seem like a pretty snowstorm in a crystal. Stocks may be high and so may be the Government's and the public's determination to see it through. But there is no glossing the economic havoc. In the reports from the coalfields, and notably from our Labour Editor today, it seems that there may be little enthusiasm in striking for pay but a desire to support the union executive and to express hostility to the Government on general grounds.

A sense of this no doubt explains the thick blanket of silence that has fallen on the subject of pay, but especially pit pay, since Ministers may well feel that anything they have to say will be counterproductive. But other people who aspire to leadership have a responsibility to the national interest. Nobody can expect much from Mr Benn and his friends. The left of the Labour Party rubs its hands at the prospect of confrontation and a national breakdown. But there are no inhibitions on Mr Michael Foot, Mr Denis Healey, Mr Roy Hattersley, Mr James

Callaghan or Mr Roy Jenkins and Mr David Steel. It is a disturbing phenomenon of modern politics in Britain that party leaders have come to exult privately or publicly at the difficulties of the governing party even when they know the government is acting in the national interest. Conservative Central Office was gleeful at the winter of discontent though it was a national as well as a Labour disaster.

There is a simple appeal that can be made by men the miners trust. It is that every percentage point added to what is already offered represents thousands more on the dole and hardship for their fellow countrymen, especially the old. Coymen, miners are rightly at the top of the table for manual pay. They owe this in part to the successful productivity scheme which their new President warned them would be dangerous (which it has not been) and would not pay (which it has). But the present offer is eminently fair. It is far better than the private sector. It is far more than the country can bear or the coalfields as a whole justify. A long strike or an excessive

wage settlement will simply make more pits uneconomic and put more mining jobs at risk. But self interest, though it is a real argument, is not the one necessarily that can tell.

Miners live in isolated areas but historically they have always had a consciousness of their sense of community with other working people. Do they really want to punish everyone else? Is it the spirit of the Durham miners' gala that great power should be used to visit great hardship on millions of ordinary people? One does not underestimate the grievances of the past that can be exploited in the memory of the coalfields but miners as a body are a hardworking and sensible group who have shown a sense of responsibility to their fellow working people more often than they are credited. If the miners could be made to see the genuine nature of the issue, with all political bile removed, they would surely vote yes at this crucial time in Britain's painful and uncertain journey from slump to recovery. It is this appeal to their better instincts, as much as to self interest, which ought to be made this week.

## THE NEW INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

The year 1982, as may well have escaped the attention of most readers, has been officially dubbed by the Government as the Year of Information Technology. It is not a particularly elegant slogan. Nor is it a particularly elucidating one. But it is an important theme and one which the Government is right in pursuing as an exception to its normal distaste for industrial policy. Put broadly, the phrase embraces everything from the home computer to satellite communications, such as have been the rapidity of development already in but one area that nobody these days thinks anything of looking into Warsaw streets by means of a satellite picture or having his voice lobbed cleanly to Australia through outer space on the international telephone.

It is not surprising that the most eager advocates of information technology proclaim its importance as equal to that of the industrial revolution. That revolution saw a total change in the means of manufacture and this one is envisaged as seeing a total change in the means of organizing society and its knowledge, overthrowing the old need for centralized units and repetitive labour and substituting a new decentralized society with infinite leisure.

Heady stuff. And the most immediate reaction of British commentators is to say that the £80m which the British Government plans to spend over the next three years is not nearly enough, especially when compared with the sums being spent by the United States and Japan. This is not quite fair, nor is it the right point for advocacy.

Mr Kenneth Baker, the newly-appointed Minister for Information Technology, is one of the brightest young members of this Administration. The Department of Industry has rightly recognised certain key areas of potential excellence for support, including fibre optics in cable communication and satellites in international communication.

Those who would urge Britain to leap with one bound into the forefront of the technology overlook just how expensive it is and forget how brilliant history is littered with brilliant innovation followed by feeble application. Prudent and solid development of someone else's brainchild can pay better dividends as Silicon Valley has learnt from the Japanese over the 64K chip. How difficult it is to compete world-wide has been demonstrated by ICL's own troubles. The investment of the National Enterprise Board into office systems has been far from uniformly successful. And there are still many who would doubt the ultimate success of two of the country's most recent initiatives, the Immos memory chip and the System-X electronic telephone enterprise.

Nor should all the exhortation be directed at Government. Trade union restrictions have set Britain back years in the application of computer-assisted printing. This is one of the few places in the world — including the Third World — where journalists and researchers are still denied direct access to the computer. And successive surveys have shown that British management is less aware than any of its colleagues in Europe of the importance of the era of

cheap micro-computing power in the office and in industrial processes. Much of what the government can do, and much of what it is trying to do with the propaganda campaign associated with Information Technology Year, is to push the message hard.

But there is something else the government can do. Where it does seem much less effective than its main competitors is in its willingness to use the full force of its machinery to back its beliefs. The French and Japanese will not only pick out areas of concentrated assistance, as the British are now doing, but will also do their best to ensure growth and success by directing public purchasing and combining bureaucracy behind the chosen enterprises. Despite the efforts of the Industry Department, our programme is still confused by the differing pulls of the Home Office, which controls the allocation of frequencies on the air, the Department of Education, the Treasury and other departments.

It is not easy to do all this, given EEC rules of open competition and the distaste of government for both home preference and public spending. But it should be the line it logically pursues. If the government really wishes to develop indigenous suppliers and users of new technology, it should embark now on a larger British Telecom investment in electronic switching, in more rapid computerization of tax and benefits, in a few more daring investments in communications and in information. Of course it will have some failures. But so did Watt, Newcomen, Hargreaves and Stephenson.

rather more effectively, at least in terms of seats won.

But Mr Steel became leader of a weakened band of Liberal MPs who may be reckoned among the most self-willed independents since the university seats were abolished by Clement Attlee's government. Today he has no more Liberals in the Commons than Clement Davis had in 1945-51. His answer is obvious: join anybody who will go or be pushed towards proportional representation to cash in on second choice votes.

Mr Steel belongs to the radical wing of the Liberal Party and stands halfway towards Fabian socialism. How that may be reconciled with historic Liberalism he still needs to explain. He is not intellectual or conscientious scruples about his pact committing Liberal support to the Callaghan-DMF government, on condition that he could disengage in good time to fight an independent general election.

Nor did he have difficulties in striking private and later public bargains with the Gang of Four, Labour Party would be able to travel to Westminster, if they thought the journey worthwhile, in a double-decker bus. Even most of the sensible comment on the early months of the Alliance has been a triumph of media hope over experience.

Nevertheless, one thing is certain and another thing is probable. The certainty is that the mould of the Liberal Party has again been broken. The probability is that the mould of the Labour Party has been cracked, though not yet entirely beyond repair.

It is possible to rationalize Mr Steel's commitment, as Liberal leader, to the idea of party coalitions. He remembers Jo Grimond inspiring his conference to "march to the sound of gunfire" and to feast on "the red meat" of power, as he remembers also that all that uncharacteristic conference rhetoric got the Liberal Party nowhere. He remembers Jeremy Thorpe as leader singing Grimond's tune

SDP can impose conditions that constitutionally are ultra vires for himself.

The Asquithians, who tend to be the long-serving and most loyal Liberals, have an affectionate memory for their party's history. They remember the split in the early 1920s, when Liberal leaders and rank and file went two ways — to the Conservatives and Labour. They remember 1931, when another split occurred. They remember how, under Clement Davis in 1945, the Liberal romp in the Commons divided six one way and six the other, with Lady Megan Lloyd-George leading the Fabian socialist group.

Meanwhile, they also remember the Conservatives could count on nearly 30 National Liberal votes from MPs who masqueraded as L and C and I, or Frank Nat Lib. They formed an integral part of the Conservative Party, although for appearance's sake they had their own Chief Whip, Sir Herbert Butcher. When Harold Macmillan succeeded Eden as Prime Minister in January 1957, Sir Herbert was one of six back bench leaders consulted by Lord Salisbury, the principal kingmaker. Today no Conservative fights under the Liberal label; National Liberalism is dead.

Historically, twentieth century coalitions have meant near extinction for what Macaulay called the "grand old party", and there are still plenty of influential Liberals around who know their party history and profoundly suspect the deal with the SDP to which Mr Steel continues to try to commit them. The next logical move is not merely to choose a single leader (would he be the comparatively inexperienced Mr Steel?) but a joint bipartisan conference to settle policy and a coordinated general election manifesto. There is a lot of stuff for argument there. The troubles of the coalition are only just beginning, and not only Bill Rodgers will make sure that adversarial politics will be the name of the game.

## Sentencing in rape cases

From Mr Jack Ashley, CH, MP for Stoke-on-Trent, South (Labour)

Sir, Your Legal Correspondent, Marcel Berlins, reports (January 9) that I am pressing for the judge in the recent rape case to "increase the sentence under a rarely used provision of the Courts Act, 1971". He added that the section was occasionally brought into play when the judge made a legal slip in the sentence, but that it was not the intention of the section to substitute a prison sentence for a non-custodial sentence.

The fact is that I asked the Lord Chancellor to remind Judge Richards that under section 1(2) he, and only he, had the power to vary his decision within 28 days. The section (now consolidated) was designed to allow for rectifying mistakes in sentencing and it is up to the judge to decide whether or not there has been a mistake.

The judge was quoted in the press as referring inquiries to David Thomas's book, *Principles of Sentencing*. But in an old edition of the book the term "contributory negligence", which the judge used to justify a mere fine for rape, referred only to the length of sentence, and the chairman was removed from the later edition. The author has assured me that there is nothing in his book which would support imposing a fine in a case of rape.

Judge Richards relied on an out-of-date legal text book. He misunderstood its contents. And he failed to appreciate that "contributory negligence" has no legal place in determining whether or not a rapist should be allowed to walk free. I shall be interested to see whether he acts, or fails to act, within the 28 days.

Yours faithfully,  
JACK ASHLEY,  
House of Commons.  
January 8.

From Mr R. G. Marshall-Andrews, Sir, Your otherwise excellent Legal Correspondent (January 7) writes that the sentence for rape passed by Judge Richards does not identify the main danger inherent in the judgment.

The judge's assumption that, in a civilised society, it is culpable folly for one person to trust another, albeit a stranger, is a dangerous self-deluding ordinance. It fails to comprehend the fundamental principle that civilised societies are based upon mutual trust.

The more we inhibit our freedom of action through fear, the more the element of trust recedes, leaving the increasingly paranoid atmosphere of mutual suspicion and trepidation. Within such an atmosphere crime and self-seeking flourish at the expense of order and cheerful self-discipline.

Thus the action in this case was not "asking for it" — she was behaving as a normal, trusting human being, behaviour which benefits us all. It is the abuse of that trust which deserves, and should receive, stern justice.

Yours sincerely,  
R. G. MARSHALL-ANDREWS,  
2 Marchmont Gardens,  
Richmond, Surrey.

From Mr Conrad Dehn, QC

Sir, The current furore over the non-custodial sentence imposed in a recent rape case highlights yet again the defect in our legal system that (except in limited circumstances) a question of law the Crown has no right to appeal against sentence.

If the Crown had such a right a sentence which was too lenient or otherwise inappropriate could be reviewed and altered by the Court of Appeal at a question of law of the Crown after, of course, hearing the parties. Oppressive conduct on the part of the Crown could be avoided by providing that such an appeal should be brought only with leave of the Court of Appeal.

The existence of such a right would not only allay public disquiet and indignation on particular cases but help to bring about greater uniformity in sentencing generally.

Yours faithfully,  
CONRAD DEHN,  
Fountain Court, Temple, EC4.  
January 8.

## Detained Pole

From Mr Kevin R. Grant

Sir, In your Christmas Eve threnody for justice you gazed all round the world before concluding that "concern for one individual life is the essential starting point for concern about many."

Acting on this principle may I appeal through your columns for the release of one Polish intellectual, Professor Wladislaw Bartoszewski?

This great patriot was imprisoned by the Nazis in Auschwitz and afterwards by the communists in the Gulag. He is Professor of Modern History in Lublin University. He was decorated by Israel as Righteous among the Nations for his help to Jews during the German occupation.

Professor Bartoszewski broadcast extensively on the Polish uprising against the Nazis on Warsaw Radio, Programme 3 during the summer months. He was seen on Polish television screens at 10.30 pm on Saturday, December 12, where he was taking part in the first Polish Cultural Congress since the war. Within hours he was "detained and isolated", his name being included in a radio listing.

General Jaruzelski could find no better means of demonstrating his good faith to an attentive world than by releasing Professor Bartoszewski to travel to the West. Avoval is worthless; evidence alone will suffice.

Yours sincerely,  
KEVIN R. GRANT,  
21 St John's Road,  
Siddcup, Kent.

## Troubled journey for London Transport

From Councillor Robert Vigers

Sir, As a local politician whose quality and lack of sophistication have so distressed Sir Richard Way (January 4), I would not presume to share his omniscience as to the intentions of the members of Parliament who debated the Act of 1963.

Which Lord Plummer (then Mr Desmond Plummer, Leader of the council), I was responsible for the detailed negotiations with Mrs Barbara Castle and Mr Richard Marsh on the terms for the reorganisation announced by the Minister of Transport on July 2, 1968, and can be confident as to the intentions of the council and of the minister at that time.

In a speech to the council on July 9, 1968, Mr Desmond Plummer said: "Our objective in all negotiations has been to secure a financial settlement which would adequately protect the ratepayers because our first duty is to them at all times. We must be sure before we take over these services that London Transport is on a sound financial footing, making a profit and thus completely self-supporting so that the firm which give the council the ratepayers, through the council, to clear off debts."

And as to the Government, Mr Plummer added: "The Minister has personally assured (to his pledge that London Transport will be made clearly viable on transfer."

These objectives were fulfilled so well that by the end of 1973 a revenue surplus of £8½m had accrued.

The break came in approving the budget for 1974, when the council resolved that "having regard to the constraints (on fares) imposed by the Price and Pay Code... the council will make a revenue grant in 1974 of up to £5m to enable the Executive to balance its revenue account in that year."

This deficit budgeting in accordance with the policies of the incoming Labour Administration at County Hall was conveniently justified by the Government's requirements under the statutory Price and Pay Code, which prevented fares increases.

A revenue grant was then considered inevitable, and one may hazard a guess that the House of Lords would have found the grant in those circumstances a dangerous self-deluding ordinance.

In later years price control ended, but the habit of deficit budgeting had become endemic and its legality went unquestioned and unchallenged, so long as the burden on the ratepayers remained unchanged. The Conservative Administration of 1977-81 aimed to restore viability but, in the event, failed to do so.

The financial resources of local government are not capable of sustaining massive transport subsidy. As a Conservative I question whether massive subsidy is either necessary or desirable, but so long as this remains a political issue — as it will in the foreseeable future — then I agree with Sir Richard Way that control must revert to central government. His alternative proposal for a regional PTA

(Passenger Transport Authority) is not practical for London.

The experiment to give Londoners control of their own transport has, because of political extremists, failed. The concept of strategic planning and transportation authority has for these and other reasons, alas, collapsed and the council in its present form should be dissolved.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT VIGERS,  
Members' Lobby,  
The County Hall, SE1,  
January 6.

From Professor Alan Day

Sir, Your correspondents' discussions of London Transport fail to consider the kind of solution to the capital's public transport which I believe to be the most attractive. That would be to end London Transport's monopoly and to allow open competition in the provision of bus services. Advantage could thereby be taken of the flexibility and efficiency of small-scale enterprises, involving relatively limited capital resources, so that the firm which give the consumer what he wants are those most likely to succeed.

The successful liberalization of long-distance coaches confirms the view that the arguments employed in the late twenties and early thirties for administrative integration and tight control of passenger road transport are now irrelevant and have long been harmful to the interests of consumers.

An end to London Transport's monopoly would be perfectly consistent with subsidies to any specific services which are judged to be particularly desirable on social grounds. There are some excellent arguments for public transport subsidies — but not for blanket assistance to inefficient monopolies.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN DAY,  
The London School of Economics and Political Science (University of London),  
Houghton Street, WC2,  
January 5.

From Mr S. P. N. Rainey

Sir, Mr Monty Moss's letter (December 31) surely misses the point. The one thing that does make sense in the "Fares Fair" system is the belated but urgently needed introduction of a "zonal" fare structure for London.

New York, Paris, Brussels, Zurich, to cite at random, all have zone systems for fares and have found that they are simpler for passengers to use, produce fewer queues at ticket offices and machines, thereby increasing efficiency, and are less labour-intensive to operate. Why should London be different?

As for Mr Moss's nightmare vision of people joyriding "all day long if they wish", this is as fantastic as it is indicative of Mr Moss's evident unfamiliarity with London Transport and its users.

Yours etc,  
SIMON P. N. RAINEY,  
6 Maresfield Gardens, NW3,  
January 4.

example of imitative or sympathetic magic.

The central event of nearly all primitive societies is the harvest (in the widest sense) and the forces thought to be at work were personified and exemplified in a ritual. The one "killed" appears to be the incarnation of the spirit of fertility, and his overthrow the winter. The latter, indeed, says: "My head is made of iron; my body's made of steel!"

It is, I think, reasonably certain that this play, now from the English countryside, is pre-Christian and indeed pre-historic. For centuries it has been kept basically in its original form and handed down by word of mouth. It is the folk play, and its age is numbered not in hundreds but in thousands of years.

It is probably a rite which stimulated the beginnings of Greek tragedy. Indeed one of the myths of Dionysos is that he introduced the plough. Then the play, in the course of time, went underground among the common people and was generally ignored by those in higher positions.

I sometime imagine a Victorian scholar, say a local clergyman, speculating in his study on the origins of drama and the customs and beliefs of antiquity, when the ploughboys arrive at his kitchen door and ask: "Would you like to see our play?" The gentleman gives the accustomed gift and politely refuses, little knowing that he has turned down the opportunity of seeing a ceremony of universal significance, echoing down the centuries from the dark backward and abyss of time: older than Rome, older than Greece, older than Dionysos.

Yours faithfully,  
J. W. SKILLINGTON,  
20 Morley Street,  
Kettering,  
Northamptonshire.

From Mr Michael Rubinstein

Sir, When I read that a magistrate had sent an unemployed, homeless man to prison for refusing, like Shaw's St Joan, to show his respect for the court by standing in the dock, I reacted with disgust as did Mr Gerald Bonner (January 2) who describes it as a "squalid little episode".

My indignation was, however, soon tempered by the humane magistrate may have recognized that the deliberate "contempt of court" was, in reality, a tacit plea to be allowed to spend Christmas and a few cold winter days and nights in the comparative comfort of an overcrowded prison.

Who would be a martyr in our civilized society? Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL RUBINSTEIN,  
6 Raymond Buildings,  
Gray's Inn, WCI,  
January 3.

## Reducing flood hazards

From Mr Richard Grove and Mr Chris Rose

Sir, It is unfortunate that the solution suggested by Dr Penning-Roswell (January 8) to reduce flood hazards in Yorkshire may actually make the problem worse.

He proposes that funding of farmland drainage should be increased. But the fact is that over the last 30 years the rate of farmland drainage nationally has already increased sixfold to a cost today of around £23m a year. In Yorkshire this may well have increased the rate of water run off into the rivers during flood peaks.

Moreover, meadows and washlands which once acted as safety valves during flood periods have been embanked and reclaimed for arable use. Alteration and plantation of upland catchments has had a similar effect.

It is well known that this process has impoverished our landscape and eliminated many wildlife habitats. It now appears that it may also have contributed to the disastrous flooding we have seen in the last week. Indeed we now fear that similar flooding may occur in Lincolnshire as a result of unusually effective drainage upstream.

Ministry of Agriculture statistics make it clear that investment by the Yorkshire Water Authority and its predecessors has already been generous. It is surely preferable that, if there is to be flooding, it should be on farmland rather than in urban areas such as York and Selby.

The narrow basis of inland drainage investment needs to be re-examined. Much increased spending on field draining and rural embanking, as recommended by Dr Penning-Roswell, will not always reduce the impact of peak floods. Instead, it may well make the effects of floods in urban areas more extreme.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD GROVE, Editor, *Ecos*,  
CHRIS ROSE, General Secretary,  
British Association of Nature Conservationists,  
As from: Darwin College,  
Cambridge,  
January 8.

## Music's death

From Mr Hans Keller

Sir, Delusion need not be invalidated, merely diagnosed. "The day the music died" by Anthony Burgess (December 29) removes, amongst other geniuses, what is perhaps humanity's greatest mind altogether from the music lover's underpinned pedestal.

Musical incompetence and incomprehension as well as sheer ignorance are the cornerstones of an essay whose publication in *The Times* we musicians fail to understand: replacing fact with fantasy, it can only make sense to those sincerely afflicted.

Yours sincerely,  
HANS KELLER,  
3 Froggall Gardens, NW3,  
December 30.

From Mr Derek Walters

Sir, The music colleges of today are attended by students whose grandfathers were not yet born when Webern wrote his Five Orchestral Pieces. Yet still the number of non-tonal compositions which have achieved popular appeal is not long enough to be counted on one finger.

Yours truly  
DEREK WALTERS,  
18 Victoria Crescent,  
Totterham, N15,  
January 5.

## Royal Family duties

From Mr T. C. M. O'Donovan

Sir, I have again carried out a survey of the duties performed by the Royal Family during 1981, as reported in your Court Circular.

|                        | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|
| The Queen              | 100  | 99   | 5    |
| The Queen Mother       | 49   | 28   | 12   |
| The Queen Elizabeth    | 10   | 16   | 30   |
| Princess Anne          | 10   | 21   | 3    |
| Princess Margaret      | 10   | 21   | 3    |
| Princess Alice Duchess | 10   | 21   | 3    |
| Duke of Gloucester     | 10   | 21   | 3    |
| Duchess of Kent        | 10   | 21   | 3    |
| Duchess of York        | 10   | 21   | 3    |
| Duchess of Edinburgh   | 10   | 21   | 3    |
| Duchess of Cornwall    | 10   | 21   | 3    |
| Duchess of Devon       | 10   | 21   | 3    |
| Duchess of Norfolk     | 10   | 21   | 3    |
| Duchess of Cambridge   | 10   | 21   | 3    |
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| Duchess of             |      |      |      |







THE ARTS

# Television

## 'Omnibus' driven in the wrong direction

The great difficulty about aiming at everybody is that you can end up by hitting nobody. The two fundamental questions in communication must surely be: What am I trying to say? and, should the answer appear worthy of promulgation, Who am I talking to? I do not think Omnibus (BBC 1) which might do well not to take its title too seriously, has asked itself either.

Last night it made a tentative, almost timorous start, with Barry Norman, having possibly felt over-enthusiastic about films, looking extremely ill at ease with his metamorphosis, not even appearing to have much faith in his quips, suspecting perhaps they belonged somewhere else.

Well, these are early days, but I think he might have to change his philosophy. A somewhat gaudy article in Radio Times, more an apology for his apprehensions than a definition of an attitude, has him saying that the common factor between nearly all arts is that they are designed to entertain. They are not. Art primarily fulfils the artist; applause is secondary — there is the line between art and commercialism.

He is wrong, too, in quarrelling with the description "Arts programme" which, he is said to think, makes many people automatically reach for the off switch. They may do at first but, if the programme is good, word will get around and the switches will go on. Not, however, if the programme, which is edited by Christopher Martin, continues in last night's style and format. Frankie Howerd, for instance, is a very funny man, and it may titillate the box-office, but he has him play Frodo in *Die Fledermaus*, but it does not do a lot for anyone interested in opera to watch him do a bit of slapstick with Richard Baker and then a further stunt with Barry Norman himself.

*La Ronde*, we know, is going the rounds now that it is out of copyright. The Royal Exchange, Manchester, were first away, with the Royal Shakespeare tonight and Sheffield and BBC Television to come. *Omnibus* tried too much here: a genuflection towards Manchester, a historical survey with Hugh Frank, and a chat with John Barton who, I thought, might have been quite adequate on his own with maybe a clip from the Max Opulus film and a little of the RSC production.

Then there was Rick Wakeman swinging between those organs and seeming to



Norman: ill at ease

be telling us that the musical version of Orwell's 1984, which he is doing with Tim Rice, might have a happy ending (start rotating George) though it was really in Tim's hands.

This was followed by Edward Heath, former Prime Minister, well-known sailor author, choir conductor and now revealed as an enthusiast for Japanese art, whipping round the Great Japan Exhibition trailed by Norman. I had a vague feeling that Heath, who is splendid in every way, was not just there because of his primacy in the field.

So not a good *Omnibus* then but, with 18 to go, good wishes. Attitude first, I would think, then content, then format and forget about what he does not know, then he should be a reporter.

King's Royal on BBC1, in ten parts, looks from the first like being a real dish of Sunday night cold porridge, one of these tedious rich family sagas. Tom Bell, who has my sympathies, appears as the Scots family's head, self-made, self-opinionated, with sentiments which, though the series is set around 1874, reminded me of Ian Paisley. Bell is Fergus King, a mean-minded grog-house tycoon in conflict with his son who, God help and save us, wants to marry a Catholic, and everybody else the kind of man who brings Christianity into disrepute. I cannot imagine how he will end up, but I will not be with him.

Yorkshire Television's Sunday Best aims to put a sparkle in 14 of our Sunday evenings with what appeared from this first programme to be jocular Christianity. It is presented by Frank Topping with Donald Swann and Marian Davies and may undergo change as it progresses, but I could not sing along with this one though, as may be apparent, I could have done with a sparkle.

Dennis Hackett

# Cinema: Ivor Davis reports on the controversy over Hollywood's version of a BBC serial

## Rebelling against American pigeon-holes

"Pennies from Heaven is a hopelessly esoteric big budgetter... a lugubrious, neo-Brechtian musical exercise of notable pretension and virtually no artistic payoff." — *Daily Variety*.

"Pennies from Heaven is so startlingly original that it leaves you open-mouthed and a little dazed... it's the movie of the year." — *Los Angeles Herald Examiner*.



Steve Martin, with Bernadette Peters, going against his image in "Pennies from Heaven"; and (below) the director Herbert Ross

Dennis Potter professes no surprise that the \$19m movie version of his nine-hour television serial *Pennies from Heaven*, screened by the BBC in 1978, is so violently dividing the American critics. *Time* magazine hated it, *Newsweek* raved and so did Pauline Kael in *The New Yorker*. The *New York Times* liked it — and the Hollywood trade papers worked themselves into a vehement frenzy about it.

The first public reaction to the film, which has just opened in the United States, appears cool. Both Potter and the director, Herbert Ross, whose films include *The Turning Point* and *Mijinsky*, agree that the picture will need careful nurturing if it is to be accepted by filmgoers in America.



Potter: no compromise

Potter has translated his British tale of Arthur Parker, the libidinous West Country song-sheet salesman, to depression-era Chicago. The story remains essentially the same — that of a man with an unsatisfying existence who lives in a fantasy world where life is like the words of the Tin Pan Alley songs he peddles, while his real existence descends lower and lower into the depths.

In the movie version Arthur dreams on a large Hollywood scale with Busby Berkeley chorus-lines and casts of thousands. It is a far cry from the simple, effective, small-screen British version. But, says Potter, deliberately so. "English fantasies", he says, "are dreamed on a more intimate scale. Such an approach would have ruined the film. You had to relate directly to the American way of thinking and dreaming, to Astaire and Rogers and the big movie musicals which would have been an American Arthur's frame of reference."

But if Americans, as Potter suggests, dream bigger dreams, they also tend not to like surprises. And this is the biggest source of the difficulties US audiences are likely to have with the film.

At a screening in Los Angeles I recently attended one woman was positively outraged. "It's disgusting," she said, apparently referring to the picture's mixture of blunt sexuality, which some Americans have perceived as aberrant, and the musical genre which sets them up to expect roses and rainbows. "There's not even a

story," she continued. "And they spent all that money."

That reaction does not surprise Potter. "Anything that mixes categories, is not on the right shelf, doesn't have the right price or come with the right ribbon, will throw some people. Americans like things to be ruthlessly categorized. But unless there's a place for films to mix categories, cross lines, break new ground, then film as an art form becomes totally moribund."

Fully aware of the difficulties the film presents, MGM, the home of sugar-and-spice musicals from the era of Garland and Gene Kelly, are carefully trying to condition the public not to expect the film to be an updated version of the Bing Crosby 'Thirties musical of the same name.

What may be confusing audiences still further is the fact that Arthur is played in the film by Steve Martin, whose reputation in America is that of a clean-cut and original comedian who appeals to a mainly under-25 audience. He could not be further from Bob Hoskins's Parker in the British version.

Potter finds *Thirties* Chicago an apt locale for the story and comments: "With the film version I started again with page one, scene one. I knew I had to cut away three-quarters of the original. I don't think people will say 'Look what Hollywood has wrought on Dennis Potter'. They won't regard it as spoiling or evasion or compromise. It's distilled but it's all there. It's not a Hollywood

botching of the original. I proudly stand by both pieces. The Hollywood nightmare didn't happen to me."

Ross, whose wife Nora Kaye found the project almost by accident when visiting England, says: "No one has ever attempted to treat musicals in this fashion. Even Dennis is unable to define the precise genre. It's a morality play, and deeply Christian — a very serious piece of work, the most ambitious and difficult film I've ever undertaken."

At first even Ross had trouble finding a studio willing to finance the picture. "Some admired the quality of it but they felt it was dangerous material," he says. "It deals with painful personal issues, death, adultery, the murder of a young girl and suicide. It's very, very black."

Potter is convinced the film will find its audience in the long run. "How people divide on it is important to MGM," he says, "but not to me. Some films everybody bubbles about and forgets a week later. This one is not as sweet on the tip of the tongue immediately as most musicals. It's the difference between lemonade and Burgundy. I think it will stay in the minds longer than most films do."

# Opera

## Audience scorned

### The Beggar's Opera

#### Drill Hall

There are, we know, problems in playing *Gay Street*. But I cannot accept for a moment that what is being presented by Opera Factory London constitutes any kind of attempt to realize what

*The Beggar's Opera* is and what it might mean. David Freeman's production is, rather, an exercise in self-indulgence which happens to take *The Beggar's Opera* as its motif.

Under the excuse of pointing the satire, if the anonymous programme note is to be believed, the thing is heaved partly out of Georgian London, vaguely contemporary no-man's-land. Most of the songs remain like fossils from the eighteenth century, prettily decked out for a baroque chamber group, but others have been converted into aggressively modern and silly synthetic rock. Of course the idiocies of this production, intoxicated as it is with itself, do not end there. We have a water-pistol fight, a water-gauge mimed sexual practices intended, no doubt, to show us how marvellously cynical and uninhibited this production is, but emphasizing instead that all the gratification is for those on stage.

In the central role of Macheath — one of the lucky ones serviced by the whores, incidentally — Mr Freeman chooses to star himself. He does so with the carelessness of one who does not need to conserve his reputation as singer or actor. He does so, too, with an almost continual expression of distaste, which I interpret as directed not only at the work in which he is involved but also at his audience, for surely, whether as performer or as producer, he has no high opinion of our intelligence.

The rest of the cast are as abysmal as they have to be. The instrumentalists of the Endymion Ensemble, guided from the harpsichord by Paul Daniels, are pleasing when they are allowed to be. And really I cannot bring myself to think any more about this obnoxious piece of exhibitionism.

If London is to have an "opera factory", then I hope its future products have more in common with the overwhelming *Punch and Judy* which William Mann reviewed last week. David Freeman has said much about changing the face of opera with his ensemble, but one must wish him well. Opera has always thrived on reform and always stayed pretty much the same. But, for heaven's sake, its potentialities and its limitations need to be taken seriously.

Paul Griffiths

# Concerts

## Virtues of musical intensity

### Lindsay Quartet

#### Queen Elizabeth Hall

Peter Cropper, leader of the Lindsay Quartet, thanked us on Friday for turning out on an inclement evening, but it would be a dull heart that did not venture a little snow for the sake of Schubert's Trout Quintet, that monument to pure musical enjoyment (and a fish that slipped through Anthony Burgess's net the other day, when he was rewriting the history of music for us all).

The Lindsay, in this shared series of new year recitals, centred on string quartets, were also offering Beethoven's op 18 no 1 in F major, still of the glorious canon, first entertainment music, although I see what Burgess was suggesting.

The slow movement is more intense than was usual in Viennese classical style of the Haydn age (but there are parallels in late Mozart and Haydn), and the Lindsay

made a purely musical virtue of that intensity. They took quite a brusque view of the outer movements, as if exhilarated by a country walk on just such a wintry day, the finale defiant rather than delighted.

That was in the context of Mozart's *Dissonance* Quartet, K465 in C, which had come first and which, despite the slow introduction whose grinding discords, miraculously resolved, suggested the nickname, blissfully eschewed the pleasure principle.

It was given a reading of outstanding love and perception, exquisitely balanced and emotionally weighted — the slow movement perhaps an iota short on tuneful smoothness, the trio of the minuet slightly faster, unprofitably as it turned out (in tempo would have worked even better, if only they would believe in it). At this level of quartet-playing, one cannot censor, only disagree.

So to the Trout Quintet, in

which the Lindsay's second violin yielded place to Rodney Slatford as double-bass and Imogen Cooper as pianist. It was a joyous and lyrical, but also a discreetly adjusted, reading. Intimacy and easily bouncing rhythms were of its essence, gentle sociability rather than the lusty buzzahs which are involved, but can easily be overstressed, to the detriment of the music's effortless effect.

Miss Cooper, in particular, recognized the need for discretion in a piano part largely written in octaves around the top of the treble clef; they easily glare on a modern concert grand.

The cello solos, and the bass in the development of the first movement, indicated that they all subscribed to this approach, which for a while made us all imagine ourselves in a coffee-house or drawing room, not a big modern concert hall.

William Mann

## Accordion overcomes prejudice

### Park Lane Group

#### Purcell Room

Thursday's concert in the Park Lane series was patterned in a rigid yet original manner, each half consisting of two works for piano accordion — one by a Scandinavian and one by an English composer — followed by a string quartet of Slavonic origin. The accordion has considerable prejudices to overcome, but Ole Schmidt's *Toccata No 1* ideally displayed its serious potentialities.

Thus in the opening section occurred rapid melodic progressions crossed with

agitated chordal punctuations; later came a creditable imitation of an organ, with slow contrapuntal movement; finally there was a virtuoso outburst of changing textures and colours. Mario Conway's playing was indeed virtuosic, a point confirmed by Phyllis Tate's *Romance and Dance* Caprice, which had its first London hearing.

This went in the opposite direction from the Schmidt, insisting on the accordion's links with popular culture. The *Romance* offered a queasily off-centre version of music from a cheap Parisian dance hall or street cafe, or at least from the soundtrack of an early René Clair film. A

livelier Italian equivalent was suggested by the Caprice. Though unobtrusively inventive, both these movements were more evocative of particular ambiances than expressions of their composer's artistic personalities.

Greater adventurousness, and violence, marked the remaining accordion pieces. Nordheim's *Dinosaurius*, which includes a part for pre-recorded tape, explores many of the techniques players like Mr Conway have pioneered, while Michael Finnissy's *Stomp*, a Park Lane Group Commission receiving its premiere, took a brisk look at jazz.

Max Harrison

# Park Lane Group

## Purcell Room

The spotlight turned on the trombone and the human voice for the last recital of this year's PLG Young Artists and Twentieth-Century Music series. The idea was to explore the similarities between the two, a notion made explicit in the French text which surfaces from Vinko Globokar's *Discourse 2* for trombone and tape.

Although it has little more to say than the Berio *Sequenza* which inspired it, and says it no more interestingly, John Kenny gave a compellingly virtuosic performance, pitting his wits against the tape's synthesized babel, like one beast calling to another across a primeval subterranean jungle. His deft manipulation of a variety of mutes in the first performance of George Nicholson's *Slide Show* gave us something to focus on in an overlong, laboured object-lesson on how the instrument functions, one which any observant brass band devotee could learn rather more enjoyably.

As the tired analogy was pressed home, a growing longing to hear the human voice itself was rewarded in Catherine Wyn-Rogers's deeply affecting performance. A vastly resonant, securely produced and warmly expressive instrumental her contralto could kindle the torrid ecstasy of Bartok's *Five Songs*, Op 15, or darken into a dreamlike drifting in the atonal wanderings of Berg's *Four*, Op 2.

Her accompanist, Stephen Betteridge, provided bright, if occasionally blurred, colouring to her laconic enunciations of Poulenc's emblematic *Bestiaire*, while Michael Finnissy played his own piano part in *Green Bushes*, a variegated dappling of light against Miss Wyn-Rogers's often breathtakingly beautiful modulation of vowel sounds through the slow, modal unfolding of its folk tale.

Hilary Finch

movements showed a few seams. All praise to the players here too, as again to those who supplied such pleasant accompaniments (piano and mixed instruments) in four sets of Stravinsky's songs bravely sung in Russian by Elizabeth Gale with stylishly cool yet creamy-toned precision.

The obligatory Mozart of this series was the Horn Quintet, K407, with John Pigneguy irreproachable in agility and balance.

Joan Chissell



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## Stock Exchange Prices

### Capitalization and week's change

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## Halliday Simpson hearing 'soon'

By Drew Johnston

The Stock Exchange disciplinary hearings against the partners of Halliday Simpson, the Manchester stockbrokers accused of unauthorised share dealings, will be heard at the end of next month or in the first two weeks in March, according to Mr Russell Torr, a former partner in the firm and one of the accused.

He and the others named in the investigation received a copy of the three-volume report shortly after it was considered by the Stock Exchange last Tuesday. In a covering letter the Exchange gave a provisional date at which the allegations would be considered. But it was unclear whether each case would be heard separately or whether all the accused would attend the same hearing.

Although the firm has been suspended at its own request since last summer, the individuals can still be fined by the Stock Exchange if the allegations are accepted by the disciplinary committee.

The Stock Exchange has also passed its findings to the Department of Public Prosecutions, which is to consider if there are cases to answer under criminal law.

Mr David Garner, Halliday Simpson's senior partner, declined to comment on the report. None of the accused have accepted the allegations.

## Gill's house option to be challenged

By Philip Robinson

The Post Office pension fund is to claim that Mr Jack Gill's option to buy a company-owned house for £100,000 below its value never appeared in the last account of his former employers.

The fund is heading 10 leading institutions in legal action to stop a £750,000 golden handshake from Lord Grade's Associated Communications Corporation.

Section 54 of the Companies Act states that any material contract between a company and its directors must be shown in the accounts.

The Post Office goes into the High Court today seeking an injunction to stop ACC paying out any cash or selling any property to Mr Gill until its petition that his compensation payoff is too high has been heard in full in February. It is likely that the Post Office evidence was given to ACC's legal advisers on Friday, the injunction hearing could be adjourned.

If the Post Office loses the full action, it could effectively have to pay for Mr Gill's handshake itself. As part of seeking an injunction, it must agree to pay any damages to ACC which could arise out of the delayed payment.

Mr Gill's solicitor is already considering suing ACC for damages because the deadline for paying Mr Gill £550,000 compensation for loss of office and selling him the house in Kingswood, Surrey, has passed. He is due to decide today whether to start proceedings.



Challengers: Michael Cassidy, pension fund solicitor and Ralph Quartano, Post Office pensions chief

Meanwhile, the Post Office will place an amended decision before the High Court this morning, the main grounds of which are that the compensation payment is too high, that no explanation has ever been given as to why Mr Gill suddenly departed after 25 years service, that the company is in breach of Section 54 of the Companies Act and that the circular asking shareholders for approval for the Gill deal was misleading on nine points.

It is understood that the

Post Office, during the course of proceedings, intend to inquire into the benefits given to directors by ACC.

The affidavit of Mr Ralph Quartano, Post Office chief executive, who is now speaking for 13 per cent of the non-voting shares, is also being filed with the high court today. Attached to it will be details of the house option agreement, Mr Gill's service contract and his termination agreement with ACC.

The Gill payoff has split the ACC boardroom where directors control most of the voting shares.

Golden handshakes, page 12

## Torness reactor 'not needed'

By Tony Hodges

There is no need for the £1,300m advanced gas-cooled nuclear power station already being built at Torness, East Lothian, according to Dr Norman Dombey, former adviser to the Commons Select Committee on Energy.

The 73 per cent capacity over maximum peak demand produced by the South of Scotland Electricity Board (SSE) would force up electricity prices in Scotland, while producing still more power which was not needed.

Forecasts for future demands and costs by the board are to be scrutinized further when Parliament resumes this month, and British Aluminium's citing of high power charges from the Hunterston "B" power station as one of the factors for the closure of its Invergordon smelter means that the committee will be re-examining the case for Torness.

Figures submitted to the

committee by the board on Torness AGR suggested that £400m would be "saved" by its completion several years in advance of the need for its supply.

But the board acknowledged the figures were based on a hypothetical increase in oil and coal prices of 5 per cent a year above the rate of inflation in the years 2000 to 2012. Such a calculation was unrealistic, Dr Dombey said.

"In my view this shows the way authorities can bamboozle the public by just making crazy projections into the future in order to get their case across, even if it is an absolutely daft case," Dr Dombey, a physicist at the University of Sussex, said.

He suggested the board should make new calculations on the cost of Scottish electricity over the next 10 years, based firstly on Torness being completed as planned and then on the project being halted now and "mothballed" until required.

Mr Ted Leadbitter, MP for Hartlepool and a member of the committee, said he would be raising the question of Torness.

The committee would be considering new evidence presented by its advisers in response to a number of issues raised with the Government on the energy programme.

Mr Peter Rost, MP for South East Derbyshire, another committee member, said he had spoken strongly against the project and had given his support only because the amount of work done made it unreasonable to suggest cancellation.

His doubts were on economic grounds. The evidence had not convinced him that the electricity produced would be competitive and if that could not be achieved, there was little point in the station.

The electricity board said the closure of the Invergordon smelter had been dis-

cussed and there was no question of Torness being stopped. It remained the Government's view it would be needed to meet future demand.

"Torness is necessary, sensible, worthwhile and in the simplest terms one of the best ways of ensuring a holding stable future tariffs for all our 1.5 million consumers", the board said.

There was overcapacity at present, in common with all other power stations, but that was necessary to meet all reasonable demands.

It also meant supplies being taken from the most efficient, and therefore most economic, plants.

Torness being a long-term project had to be looked at in the long term. If Dr Dombey produced figures of what the board would examine them.

Although nuclear power stations were dearer to build than coal or oil stations, the electricity they produced was cheaper, he said.

## Talks may cut trade imbalance

From Bailey Morris, Washington, Jan 10

Leaders of the leading western trading nations meet in Key Biscayne, Florida, this week to try to settle some of the increasing trade differences which could unleash a new wave of protectionism, similar to the one which helped spark the Depression in the 1930s.

The Japanese have twice postponed the talks, fearing that the United States and Europe would join forces to oppose exports from Tokyo.

The meeting, which was originally billed as trilateral talks between ministers of the United States, the EEC and Japan, will also include members of the Canadian government, which asked to be represented.

Despite the high level nature of the talks, it is unlikely that they will produce any concrete results. A member of the American delegation said that if the talks result in tough and frank exchanges which convince participants the West's trade differences are now dangerous, they will have accomplished something.

Transatlantic steel trade, the West's mounting trade deficit with the Japanese, European agricultural policies, export subsidies, United States trade sanctions against the Soviet Union and Canadian energy policies are designed to limit the role of American companies, are some of the problem areas.

The possibility of serious confrontations prompted the participants to set strict guidelines for the talks, which will not include discussions of any bilateral issues, such as steel or Canada's energy policies.

The Ministers will concentrate on broad questions such as Poland, possible control of trade in high technology goods and ways to defuse growing political pressures for protectionist trade policies.

As unemployment mounts in the United States, car, steel and other industries are portents for a wide range of protectionist proposals.



Pricing beer: higher charges on the way

## Brewers to charge 2p more for canned beer

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Prices of canned beer sold through supermarkets are likely to rise, probably next month. There are strong indications in the trade that the rise, the first for a year on almost all lines, will be at least 2p on a large can.

The cheap offers on canned beer seen in the supermarkets before Christmas are also expected to dry up, at least for the time being. Some of these have been virtually winning out the 4p increase on large cans which the brewers added in February last year.

Final decisions on the scale of rises do not yet appear to have been made by the brewers which face the problem of protecting profits despite the threat of further declines in beer sales.

The National Union of Licensed Victuallers is worried that some brewers might gear up rents of their tied pubs in order to improve returns.

A price increase on cans in line with last year's is being discounted because of the increased spare production capacity bedeviling the brewers. Sales into the supermarket and the free trade — largely clubs — at low prices have been seen as a way of mopping up some of the spare capacity.

But an increase in some free trade prices as well as on cans has been forecast by Mr Colin Mitchell, drinks analyst at Enderbaster & Moore, the London stock brokers. He forecasts a 5p rise on beer this year.

## Boeing presents new 757

From Edward Townsend, Seattle, Jan 10

The Boeing 757 jet, the second of the American company's new fuel-efficient airliners of which 19 have been ordered by British Airways, is due to be rolled out of its assembly hanger here on Wednesday.

Sir John King, the chairman of British Airways, senior executives of Rolls-Royce which is to supply newly designed RB211 engines for the first batch of 757s, and leaders of other leading airlines and suppliers are to witness the ceremony. It is the latest of five months after the roll-out of the larger, 270-seater 767 for which 173 orders have been received.

Boeing, the world's largest jet builder, is investing more than \$2,500m (£1,315m) in the two aircraft and in developing an improved version of its top-selling 737-seater 737. Orders for the latter now stand at 990 of which 730 have been delivered.

The short to medium range 757, with between 180 and 250 seats, is directly in competition with the Airbus A-310 of Airbus Industrie, the European consortium in which British Aerospace holds a 20 per cent stake. Airlines have so far ordered 178 of the A-310s against a total of 136 for the 757.

British Airways, which has options to buy a further 18 of the new Boeings, and Eastern Air Lines of the United States which has 51 on order or at the option stage, are to take delivery of the first in January, next year.

The smallest customer so far for the new Boeing is Monarch, the United Kingdom charter airline and a sister company to the Cosmos holiday tour company, which has ordered three 757s with an option to buy at least one more.

Monarch is engaged in a \$130m (£68m) programme to replace its three Boeing 720Bs with the RAC 1-11s with 737 and 757 aircraft by 1984.

## More than 3m jobless likely for two years

By Melvyn Westlake

Unemployment is likely to reach 3 million and remain well over that figure for the remainder of this Parliament, even if relatively rapid growth is engineered, according to James Caple, the City stockbroker, in his economic assessment, published today.

Despite the projected recovery in 1983-84, output will still be between 3 and 4 per cent below its 1979 level, by the end of 1983, and manufacturing output, even after a strong per cent growth over the next two years, will still be between 10 and 11 per cent below its 1973 peak.

The Government will appear to have little to show for its policies unless the inflation rate can be squeezed down well into single figures. The brokers expect some improvement in the level of wage settlements in the summer. Nevertheless, it is expected that the rise in average earnings could be held to about 10 or 11 per cent, which together with productivity gains, makes single figure inflation a possibility in 1983.

The Government could improve on this past outcome by raising duties in line with inflation, as is expected in the next Budget.

In that event, inflation might be brought down to 8 per cent by the fourth quarter of 1982. This would also provide a relative boost to real incomes compared with the Treasury forecast. Lower inflation might also encourage people to spend more of their savings than is expected.

Meanwhile Britain could be heading for a 16 per cent jobless level and the bottom of the EEC unemployment league table, the latest University of Cambridge economic policy review says.

The Community would have to create 9.5 million extra jobs to bring unemployment down to 5 per cent of its labour force by 1985.

This would require an average annual economic growth rate of about 5 per cent but would still leave unemployment at a high level compared with past standards.

If governments do nothing, however, and economic conditions in the next few years are the same as about 5 per cent, the level of unemployment in the EEC could reach about 12 per cent of the workforce compared with about 8 per cent in 1981.

Such circumstances would hit Britain hardest, according to the Cambridge Department of Applied Economics analysis which looks at prospects and problems facing the EEC.

## EEC steel price strategy 'at risk'

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Crucial discussions on the future of the European steel industry's recovery programme are to be held later this week at an informal meeting of Community industry ministers as uncertainty over the effectiveness of the Commission-inspired strategy continues.

British and West German Ministers are expected to express their concern that member governments must adhere to the strict timetable laid down last year for the progressive elimination of all state aid to their steel industries by the end of 1985.

They will argue that unless the terms of the agreement are observed and enforced by the Commission, the entire strategy could be undermined.

British and German government worries derive from subsidies from the French, Belgian and Italian governments towards the end of last year made without consulting the Commission.

At the end of last month, the Commission formally approved payment of state aid totalling £700m by the three governments, but laid down strict conditions, including plant closures in the case of the Belgian steel industry.

The Belgian government has agreed to the closure of two mills in Charleroi and

two blast furnaces in Liege, in return for an aid package costing £139m to the loss-making Cockerill-Sambre group.

In return for emergency aid totalling £408m to the Usinor and Sacilor companies, the French government has agreed to detailed discussions with the Commission before the end of March on a restructuring programme for the French industry. Similar tight conditions have been applied to further aid for Italy's Finisider company.

The tough approach adopted by the Commission may help to quieten some of the criticisms levelled by the British and German Governments.

This week's meeting will also provide Ministers with an opportunity to discuss the response of consumers to the first phase of a round of price increases, being coordinated by producers across the Community.

Although the Commission has managed to introduce a series of price and production controls to curb overcapacity on a range of steel products, it has so far failed to secure any voluntary agreement on controls on the wire rod with the integrated producers unable to agree with independent steel producers on a formula.

## Rolls sheds 480 jobs

About 480 jobs are to be lost at Rolls-Royce aero-engine plant at Hillington, near Glasgow.

The job loss is believed to result from Lockheed, the American aircraft company, ending production of the TriStar airliner which is powered by Rolls-Royce's RB-211 engines, many of them produced at the Hillington factory.

The company hopes that the 360 redundancies on the shop floor and 120 staff workers, can be met by voluntary redundancy.

But Tom Dougan, the regional organizer of the engineering union, said yesterday that there would be union backing if workers wanted to fight to save jobs.

Mr Malcolm McKay, secretary of Paisley district of the union, said shop stewards were meeting today to discuss the matter.

## BL convoy stranded

Fifty British Leyland Landrains, due for delivery in Kaduna, Nigeria, are held up 300 miles from their destination through a shortage of drivers.

The vehicles, part of an order for 100 Landrains worth £3.5m, became stranded at Ibadan.

Mr Peter Watson, managing director of A. A. Chanchang, the largest transporters of fuel in Nigeria, ordered the fleet to cope with a shortage of refined fuel in the country.

Mr Christopher Braithwaite, BL's sales director for Africa, said the only problem was finding enough drivers to get the convoy through. He expected that to be overcome in time for the lorries to be delivered by the end of this week.

The deal, negotiated by Mr Watson through the Export Credits Guarantee Department, could lead to further orders worth up to £18m.

## Talk direct, C & W ordered

The Government is refusing to act as an intermediary in discussions between Cable & Wireless, and British Telecom over the interconnection of international communication networks.

Cable & Wireless, which in partnership with BP and Barclays Merchant Bank proposes to operate a rival domestic telecommunications system called Mercury primarily for the business community, has been told to negotiate directly with British Telecom.

## BUSINESS BRIEFING



## Talbot sticks to Samba

Talbot is keeping the name Samba for its new small car being launched in Britain next month.

The three-door front-wheel drive hatchback is already selling well under the name Samba on the Continent.

The company has had misgivings about using the name in Britain, but has now decided the name will be a big selling advantage.

Both dealers and the public

helped the company to make the decision by taking part in surveys.

Samba will be among the country's most economical cars. Its 1124cc engine version can return 60 miles per gallon at a constant 56mph and 48.7mpg in urban driving.

Two other engines for the versatile and desperately needed small car addition to the Talbot fleet are available.

□ The Spanish Seat car company is having talks with the West German Volkswagen company with a view to signing a cooperation agreement before June.

□ Delegates representing car unions at Ford plants in the United States have agreed to start talks with the company on a new labour contract.

## THIS WEEK

TODAY: Retail sales figures for November (final). TOMORROW: Hire purchase and other instalment credit, wholesale price index numbers (December provisional), personal sector account and industrial and commercial companies appropriation account (third quarter).

WEDNESDAY: Building societies' monthly figures (December), Central Government transactions including borrowing requirement (December).

THURSDAY: Index of industrial production for Wales (third quarter). FRIDAY: United Kingdom banks' assets and liabilities and the money stock (mid-December), London dollar and sterling certificates of deposit (mid-December), Useable steel production (December).

## Threat to engineering

Chambers of Commerce in Birmingham and Coventry claim at least 49 small companies specializing component manufacture and light engineering have gone out of business in the Birmingham area in the last six months.

This, they say, reinforces growing fears of an erosion of the industrial structure of the West Midlands.

The death of the traditional small makers of components and support services for heavy industry will leave a gap when an upturn comes which will either leave the big companies short of vital components.

## Chinese seek oil partners

Two Chinese officials are in Hongkong seeking foreign cooperation and investment in the new offshore oil exploration programme over the next few years.

Modern drilling and production platforms are needed and 10 existing offshore oil rigs must have their engines replaced.

SATURDAY: Retail prices index (December), tax and prices index (December).

Company results: Eilis and Everard, H. Samuel, Magnet and Southern (today), Hogg Robinson, Ratners, Sted and Simpson (tomorrow), Rascal, Allied Colloids, Cosalt (Wednesday), Dixons Photographic, Thora EMI, Associated Newspapers, S & W Berniford, Muirhead (Thursday), Raybeck (Friday).

## Gibraltar economy 'threatened'

## Rock residents fear reopening of frontier with Spain

From Alan McGregor in Gibraltar

Trepidation is evident in reaction here to the announcement that on April 20 Spain is reopening the land frontier, which, after two years of progressively increasing restrictions, was closed by General Franco in June 1969. It will inevitably mean important readjustments in the "island economy" that, with £30m development aid from Britain, has been built up in the 13 years during which the people of the last remaining colony in Europe have been denied land access to Spain at La Linea frontier.

In that time, the public sector has grown to constitute two-thirds of the economy, compared with about half before 1967. One of its mainstays, the naval dockyard, is to shut down in two years with the loss of 1,000 jobs. Dockyard wages, mainly because of the efforts of Mr Joe Bassano, leader of the Gibraltar Transport and General Workers' Union, are close to the level in the United Kingdom and inflation here is lower.

Unemployment at four per cent contrasts with about 25 per cent in the adjacent Campo area of Spain, which formerly provided Gibraltar's foreign workers, to be replaced by Moroccans after 1982.

Mr Bassano said: "If we were exposed to the influx of Spanish labour, there would be so many unemployed that the Government of Gibraltar

would go bust within 12 months in trying to maintain them." Both he and Sir Joshua Hassan, the Chief Minister, are confident, however, that this is unlikely, considering the strength of Gibraltar unions in the 11,500 workforce. But the picture could change again were Spain to be a full member of the European Economic Community.

In addition to trying to persuade the British Government to change its mind on the dockyard, which is considered unlikely, the possible commercialization of the dock for merchant shipping is envisaged, although competition from other Mediterranean yards with lower wages would be keen.

Tax advantages introduced in recent years have so far attracted a score or so of offshore banks and captive insurance companies, and company registrations have increased to 2,000.

"Just reopening the frontier will not solve our problem," Mr Samuel Attias, a leading businessman said: "We need the normal business done by all frontier firms, cross border trade with people on either side buying where they wish — the same as Ceuta (a Spanish enclave in Morocco) directly across the Strait, which is a free port." Gibraltarians have long entrepreneurial traditions.

"I have absolute confidence if the frontier is

reopened normally," Mr Wilfred Garcia, president of the Chamber of Commerce, said. "We can make Gibraltar what it was before, a resilient successful shopping centre with a great deal of tourism and, now, rather more than that. We need to build the necessary infrastructure for outside investment."

If when the frontier is reopened, the influx of curious and bargain hunting Spaniards is likely to be phenomenal. During Franco's regime relatively few Spaniards, apart from the commuting workers, had passports enabling them to visit Gibraltar freely.

Likewise, tourism will receive an enormous boost. Sir Joshua said, "There have been so many restrictions and so much said about Gibraltar over the years that in the eyes of many tourists we must be almost a unique museum piece."

After 1967, not even foreign tourists from Spain's nearby Costa del Sol were allowed to use La Linea.

Since then regular access by air has been confined to flights from the United Kingdom and Tangiers, making a trip here time consuming and costly for tourists from the Continent, obliged to stop overnight in London.

For the same reason, about three quarters of visitors from the United Kingdom have come from the London area, the south-west and the midlands.



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## US anti-trust verdict will transform computer industry

January 8 is destined to go down as a red letter day in computer industry circles. Two anti-trust suits settled by the American government on that date promised to change the shape of the computer business the world over.

The news that the United States Justice Department had dropped its case against International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) thirteen years after it began was historic enough; combined with the announcement that it can also settle its suit against American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T), it shook the industry.

The IBM decision will not have as great an impact as the AT&T one. Since the case was dismissed, IBM is free to continue operating as it has always done. The chief difference is likely to be a slightly more aggressive posture from the company now that it is released from the fear of anti-trust action.

But the AT&T settlement unleashes a new entrant into the computer industry that could potentially rival IBM and the Japanese. Although the telecommunications and computer industries have drawn much closer together in recent years, AT&T has not been able to expand into new businesses because of its regulated status as the supplier of telephone services to eighty per cent of the United States.

Now the company will be free to move into rapidly growing fields such as data processing, computer communication and computer equipment, because it is divesting most of its regulated businesses. Under the settlement, AT&T must sell the 22 wholly-owned local telephone subsidiaries, worth \$80,000m, that account for two-thirds of its assets. While that means that the company will lose a main part of its business, it is hardly an object of pity.

The local telephone companies are the least profitable of its operations, accounting for about one third of net income of \$6,900m the year ended December 31, 1980. AT & T will keep its long distance telephone business, its manufacturing company, Western Electric, and Bell Laboratories, its research arm. They are the most profitable of its businesses now and also the most potential for growth.

"AT & T is going to keep its good businesses and is getting rid of its less attractive operations," Mr Winston Himsforth, a telecommunications analyst at Lehman Brothers in New York, said. Just how AT & T will expand into new markets has yet to be determined by legislation from Congress or rulings from the Federal Communications Commission which has regulatory powers over the company. But few competitors doubt that the company has either the ability or the resources to make an impact.

AT&T has been readying itself for the move into new markets for some time. Bell Laboratories has a reputation for developing highly innovative products, although due to the company's relatively regulated status few of them have appeared on the market. In fact, at least one product is already waiting in the wings. AT&T indicated that it hoped to win government approval to launch a computer related product this spring.

Called Advanced Communication Service (ACS) it is a network that is supposed to allow distant computers to exchange information more cheaply than they can over telephone lines. Smaller companies that can already provide similar network have been worried over the prospect of competition with AT&T for some time, and companies who make electronic switchboards that can handle computerized data as well as speech are also concerned.

AT&T has not been allowed to add such data handling capabilities to its switchboards and has lost considerable business as a result. Now competitors fear that the company will regain many of its old customers at their expense.

"My initial gut reaction is that it could be horrible," said Mr Kenneth Oshman, president of the Rolm Corporation, which makes such switchboards,

"There has been nothing done to the monopoly. They have only taken the heartache out of the business." But perhaps the most significant impact of the settlement will be that it is likely to throw AT&T and IBM into competition for the first time.

IBM has already started to move into AT&T's territory with the switchboard that it sells in Europe. AT&T's prospective ACS network is undoubtedly a move into IBM's province.

As the companies continue to go after the same markets they are bound to begin to meet, and what happens when they do could have a significant effect on the industry as a whole.

Customers may benefit from some fierce competition. Some companies now in the market may find themselves submerged in the fall-out of a battle between two giants. Others, particularly companies in new markets, may find that the presence of two such powerful forces helps them by endorsing the types of products they are selling. But whatever happens, the emergence of AT&T and the unfettering of IBM will change the shape of the worldwide computer market for years to come.

### Discount houses Changing times spell trouble

The disaster at Smith St Aubyn clearly owed more to bad judgment than bad luck. Yet the losses suffered there point up clearly a structural change which is taking place in the markets as a result of the change in monetary control. Although losses in gilts are nothing new (most discount houses still remember 1972 with a shudder), the new system makes it more difficult for the discount market to expect easy money from the workings of the system.

In part this is clearly deliberate. There has been considerable tension between the Treasury and the Bank of England in recent years about the relative ease with which the discount houses made money. That was one of the contributory factors leading to the change in regime.

Discount houses lose money when interest rates rise because they are effectively jobbers as well as brokers. They do not merely buy and sell bills on behalf of others. They also take positions in the hope of making a profit. With a fixed Minimum Lending Rate and infrequent changes in interest rates, that is a reasonably easy thing to do. The authorities fund their debt by moving interest rates up to a peak and then allowing them to fall steadily. The prospect of a drop in interest rates holds out the hope of a gain in the capital value of fixed interest stock.

The Bank no longer specifies what the interest rate band which it is aiming for is. Interest rates can and do change more often and, at least in the short term, in a fairly random way.

If the risks of loss are greater, the potential for profit is less. Dealing in huge quantities of Government bills now yields very small returns. It is perhaps understandable that those aiming to achieve profits on their previous scale in a new harsher environment should take greater risks. The fact that some of the risks are now being borne by the private sector is in a way a vindication of the new system of monetary control. It may induce a greater sense of caution on other operators.

Yet there are grounds for concern in the present situation. The discount houses are under pressure to increase their profits to maintain the real value of their equity. Yet trying to do this in the present market goes right against the grain of Government policy which is chipping away at those profits. It is hard to avoid the conclusion that the role of the discount house sector will decline in the years to come rather than survive. But ruthless control over costs will have to be allied to sensible activities in the market if they are to do so.



The good old days when Jack Gill (left) and Lord Grade (right) worked closely at Associated Communications Corporation.

## Contracts and golden handshakes

Paul Maimment

The City's powerful institutional shareholders are taking an increasingly hard look at the contracts of executive company directors, both as they walk into the boardroom and as they either leave or are kicked out.

The case of Mr Jack Gill's controversial £750,000 "golden handshake" package has sharply focused the institutions' attention on what has become a contentious and emotive issue. It has also underlined the institutions' increasing awareness of their self-appointed policing role on behalf of fellow minority shareholders.

There is a danger that the Gill case, which has attracted so much attention, because in part its handshake glitters so much more spectacularly than any seen before in this country, will be taken as a norm.

It is not. Pension fund managers are quick to say that the underlying issue at stake here is that of Associated Communications Corporation's non-voting shares, the only ones traded in the stock market and the way in which they prevent most shareholders having an effective say in the way the company is run.

Indeed, many institutions have not invested in ACC for that reason. Furthermore, an argument can be made that the Gill case is being used as a means to exert greater influence over Lord Grade's handling of the company by testing the resilience of the non-voting share barricades.

Nonetheless, there is a growing body of opinion within institutions that while the misuse of service contracts, or to put it more bluntly plain greed, are relatively few, there is a need to tighten up on the loopholes that exist.

Wearing their minority shareholder's hat, they also believe there is a need more vigorously to monitor the provisions of service contracts that are written, particularly where they relate to fringe benefits such as property. Some directors have been able to benefit from very substantial capital appreciation in recent years. Undoubtedly, some institutions' investment directors would like to see service contracts scrapped altogether. "They are one-way bullets that operate against the company," says the director of one of the country's leading pension funds.

However, it is not very likely that service contracts will disappear, certainly not while executive directors have the twin responsibilities of being both an executive and a director with at times conflicting interests.

Indeed, most institutions think it is reasonable that there should be contracts and expect that companies in trouble will have to offer generous terms if they are to attract highly-rated executives to a risky job with an uncertain future.

The question is: what is a reasonable contract? Under the 1980 Companies Act, a service contract for up to five years duration can be awarded at the board of directors' pleasure. Longer than that requires shareholders' approval.

Many institutional fund managers would like to see that five years restriction reduced to three. They say there seems no reason why a director's term should outlive the employee's term as a director, which has to be confirmed by a shareholders' election usually every three years.

Over and above taxation considerations, there are no

restrictions on the terms of a service contract. Compensation for breaking such a contract — the golden handshake — is a different matter.

The law provides that shareholders must give their approval if a settlement exceeds the bona fide damages that a court would award for breach of contract. Since the last Budget, the difference between ex gratia and compensation payments has been scrapped, largely to clarify the taxation position.

In most circumstances, the size of a golden handshake is worked out against the yardstick of what sort of court award would be made. The differences that arise from the individual circumstances of each case make it impractical to impose an arbitrary top limit on golden handshakes, such as the £75,000 restriction proposed by Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, the Conservative MP.

Recently, there have been several golden handshakes of more than £75,000 which attracted little criticism. Mr John Read, who resigned as institutional shareholder, said: "Unigate after policy differences with his colleagues, received £150,000. Mr Eric Sosnow received £125,000 after standing down as chairman of United City Merchants which was taken over by the Arab Bank."

There have been golden handshakes other than Jack Gill's which have raised eyebrows. For example, Admiral Sir John Treacher, who headed playboy for only 96 days before the group decided to sell out to Trident Television having lost its gaming licences, is expected to collect £400,000, which would make him the highest

paid short-term executive in Britain.

Formal legislation is not favoured by most institutional fund managers, who believe there are sufficient weapons available to diligent shareholders, and that extra red tape would only tie everyone in unnecessary knots without necessarily binding the hands of the greedy. "It would be like taking a sledgehammer to crack a nut," one fund manager said.

The details of service contracts have to be made available on request to shareholders, who also have the power to instigate general meetings if they do not like what they see.

This is what has happened in the Jack Gill case. "This does not point up the need for fresh legislation," but does demonstrate the need for shareholders to take advantage of the weapons available to them and the need for rugged non-executive directors," Mr Andrew Hutchinson, head of research at the Institute of Directors, says.

"The policing (of the board on behalf of other minority shareholders) is a role that ought to be taken up by institutional shareholders," he adds. A fund manager of one of the country's leading insurance companies agrees: "It is up to the institutions to ensure that golden handshakes remain reasonable."

"Institutions must have regular contacts with the companies they invest in, and their contacts with merchant banks mean they get tipped the wink on matters not generally heard about." The Institute of Directors believes that executive directors' remuneration should be the concern of a company's non-executive directors. This is one reason why it would

like companies to be required by law to have at least two non-executive directors.

Creating non-executive directors' committees which would help remove the complaint that most service contracts are directly approved by those whom they benefit.

It would also help remove a complaint about directors of takeover candidates falling prey to the temptation of writing themselves service contracts once a bid comes.

An approach favoured by the investment director of one national industry's pension fund is to use taxation to deal with what he calls obscene settlements.

At present, the first £25,000 of a golden handshake is tax free and the remainder is taxed at a maximum of 30 per cent at current rates under special tax reliefs known as top slicing. Penal rates could easily be introduced to debase golden handshakes, this investment director thinks.

Another tax change which could undermine the need for golden handshakes would be to change the laws relating to executives taking an equity stake in their company. Mr Hutchinson believes that service contracts are a substitute for capital in the eyes of many company directors and they are being penalized for their risk-taking.

Many shareholders might well prefer to see directors fallen from grace walking away with known quantities of their company's paper rather than with haggled over amounts of their company's possibly shrinking profits, which in turn could be shaving their dividends. In addition, they would be more likely to shout "foul" earlier, as that is what they felt.



## How Reagan's sanctions force Europe's hand

President Reagan's economic sanctions against the Soviet Union for its supposed involvement in the military take-over in Poland have begun to bite. But the first casualties are industrial companies and work forces in western Europe rather than the oppressor in the Soviet block.

At the weekend, the General Electric Company of the United States confirmed that it could no longer fulfil a \$175m contract to supply the European companies with turbine components.

The parts — rotors, turbine blades and nozzles — had been ordered by John Brown of Britain, AEG-Telefunken of West Germany and Nuovo

Impianti of Italy for use on compressor components to be built along the controversial 3,400-mile pipeline that is due to bring natural gas from northern Siberia to Western Europe from 1984.

By the simple device of reclassifying its products to require a type of export licence that is no longer being issued, the United States Commerce Department has made President Reagan's sanctions order retrospective.

Because no other western company can match the General Electric components, the United States administration has at best delayed and could even have put at risk the largest ever East-West trade deal.

At a minimal cost to American industry, it has taken a swipe at a venture that has long been a thorn in its flesh but which held out the promise of jobs in Britain, West Germany, France and Italy from large Soviet industrial orders already worth more than £2,300m.

President Reagan's advisers have been skrewed in attacking a project that has been the subject of considerable controversy in western Europe. The plan to supply West Germany, France, Italy and four smaller countries with a total of 40,000 cubic metres of gas a year for 25 years inevitably raised fears that western Europe would become too dependent on Soviet energy supplies.

Also disturbing was the prospect of the Soviet Union increasing its income from gas sales to the West to £5,000m a year at today's prices.

Because of events in Poland, the Italian government announced before the New Year that it was postponing negotiations on a new long-term grain agreement, the administration has already allowed the delivery of 23 million tons of grain to the Soviet Union this year.

It has been suggested that a grain embargo should be imposed if conditions in Poland deteriorate, but the US Department of Agriculture has been actively reassuring the midwestern farmers since the Polish military takeover that they will not lose the lucrative Soviet market.

What, therefore, are the Europeans to make of the American sanctions policy? Is it a deliberate move to scotch European industries' export opportunities while midwestern farmers continue to make hay? Or is the apparent inconsistency between the approach to sanctions on industrial and agricultural products just another instance of an administration rooted in middle America and on the West Coast picking up the blunt instrument in response to domestic pressure?

Thinking of the impact of the European allies? There is probably some truth in both these views. But the Reagan Administration has been consistent since taking office in seeking a thorough rethink about exports of western technology to communist countries. Its concern was manifested at the Ottawa summit last summer and will be taken up later this month.

While West European countries may agree that economic sanctions do not work, the argument that trade with the communists furthered détente is, after Angola, Afghanistan and Poland, scarcely credible.

Since Lenin's day, it has been Moscow's policy to exploit economic relations with capitalist countries for the Soviet Union's geopolitical ends. Perhaps the time has come for the United States and its European allies to look beyond immediate issues such as the pipeline deal or grain exports and work out for the first time a coherent policy on East-West trade.

Peter Norman

## Business Diary Profile: Hans Friderichs' Pole Star

This should have been a happy new year for Dr Hans Friderichs. If all had gone according to plan, the chief executive of the Dresdner Bank would have been looking back on a remarkable episode, unique in banking history.

On December 29 the agreement rescheduling \$2,400m of Polish debt due in 1981 was to have been signed in the bank's Frankfurt headquarters.

The Dresdner Bank, as head of the international task force in charge of negotiating with the Poles, would have been able to reflect with pride on the remarkable achievement of keeping 500 or so banks from around the world from declaring Poland in default through months of arduous negotiation.

For Friderichs it would have been confirmation that a bold career switch had finally paid off after four years' hard slog.

But the military takeover in Warsaw and Poland's failure to pay \$350m in back interest and principle, set as a condition for signing the agreement, have left the Dresdner Bank, together with Poland's other commercial bank creditors, with no choice but to wait and hope.

It was in September 1977 that Hans Friderichs astonished Bonn by announcing that he was resigning as Federal Economics Minister to become first a member of the

Dresdner Bank board and from May 1978 its chairman.

At the time of the announcement, Friderichs was still only 45 and seemed to have a long political future. Since he had been appointed Economics Minister in 1972 as a comparative unknown, the Free Democrat politician had become one of the best-known faces in the ruling coalition. He was a frequent and fluent performer at news conferences and on television.

His sudden decision to leave politics in the midst of the crisis following the kidnapping of the employers' leader Herr Hanna-Martin Schleyer seemed to many an act of desertion.

His arrival at the Dresdner Bank was not without problems. Friderichs was appointed to replace one of the most impressive bankers to have emerged in Germany during the 1970s. Juergen Ponto, who was gunned down by terrorists, had made the bank a national and international force.

As Germany's second largest bank, the Dresdner under Ponto shed the rather uneven reputation it had acquired in the early postwar years. Ponto gave the bank an aura of patrician solidity that was enhanced by his patronage of the arts and his position as a close adviser to West Germany's Chancellor, Helmut Schmidt.

But the Ponto era also laid

the seeds of some of the problems which have plagued Friderichs in his four years in Frankfurt.

In the 1970s the Dresdner Bank developed its business with the Eastern bloc, establishing a particularly close relationship to Poland and the Bank Handlowy in Warsaw. Ponto took responsibility for putting the ailing AEG-Telefunken group back on its feet — an exercise that is still costing the Dresdner Bank and the German bank-

ing industry millions of marks a year.

Friderichs, then a newcomer to banking, took over at a time when the German banking industry was awash with cash. Interest rates were low and all signals pointed to expansion.

Today, after two years of tight money policy, the Dresdner Bank, like Commerzbank and Westdeutsche Landesbank, is having to pay dearly for lending long at low-interest rates without

securing adequate refinancing.

As a newcomer to banking, it was difficult for Friderichs to secure the respect and loyalty of a board which had tended in the past to resemble a bunch of barons rather than a team, and in which individual ambition had re-emerged after the abrupt removal of Ponto's leadership.

But the slender six-footer with the disarmingly mild brown eyes is tougher than he looks. His hobbies — long-distance cycling and cross-country skiing — point to a man with a capacity for endurance.

After four years he is still at the top of the Dresdner Bank but several members of the managing board have gone. Last year Friderichs pushed through an internal reorganization of the bank that should give the board fuller control over the activities of the entire group and a better oversight over the growing

risks in banking.

Friderichs' political background and instincts will still be invaluable, if only because the problem of the Polish debt is bound to be around for years to come. But with the bank likely to announce a cut in its dividend for a second year running in the spring, Hans Friderichs has got to show that he can make money as well as talk about it.

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## FINANCIAL REPORTS

## Thorn EMI set for improvement

The market starts a new account this week and will have a crop of results to digest. Among these, S & W Berisford, the commodity trader which made a lengthy and abortive attempt to acquire British Sugar, reports full-year figures on Thursday. On the same day come half-year results from Thorn EMI and full-year figures from Muirhead and Associated Newspapers, while Rascal Electronics reports on its first half on Wednesday.

After a 25 per cent slump in profits on the year to March, which was better than some expected, Thorn EMI should show signs of an improvement in its half-year figures.

Analysts are looking for profits of around £45m against last year's £38.6m, with a modest increase in the half-year dividend from last year's 4.05p. But there are fears of a rights issue with the figures.

The group has been reshaped to the point where it should become the market leader in home entertainment by the mid 1980s, using Japanese technology with EMI's electronics expertise and record library to profit from the video boom.

Loss elimination, particularly in its lighting division, will be the principal element in the improved profits, but there should be a steady growth of the defence, electronics and engineering interests despite the recession.

The consumer electronics division should show some recovery as the television manufacturing interests become profitable again, but higher depreciation and promotion costs will limit any advance in rental profits.

Reorganization of EMI's music publishing business, after the bad performance of 1979-80, produced a significant upturn last year, but this owed much to licence conditions in Australia and South Africa and the performance may not be quite so rosy this year.

The circulation war of the Fleet Street tabloids, featuring a natural gas supply to consider supplying some of its Common Market partners so they can avoid relying on Russian and Algerian supplies, suggest an energy expert today.

Dr Nigel Lucas, lecturer in Energy Policy at Imperial College, London, warned that some European countries, notably West Germany, Italy and France, are becoming dependent on imported gas to an alarming extent.

Writing in *Coal and Energy Quarterly*, the National Coal Board Journal, he urges Britain to adopt a more "extrovert approach" to its gas policy and give Western Europe a degree of energy security.

Integrated Development Authority for the Lipkato, Gourma Region (Upper-Volta, Mali, Niger).

Correction to International invitation to tender for the establishment of a telecommunications network (The Times January 4th, 1982).

Head "telephone sets" instead of "telex sets" in the advertisement. The documents will be provided against payment of the following amounts: — £25,000 for the network.

**Base Lending Rates**

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|--------------------|-------|
| ABN Bank           | 14.5% |
| Barclays           | 14.5% |
| BCCI               | 14.5% |
| Consolidated Crds. | 14.5% |
| C. Hoare & Co.     | 14.5% |
| Lloyds Bank        | 14.5% |
| Midland Bank       | 14.5% |
| Nat Westminster    | 14.5% |
| TSB                | 14.5% |
| Williams & Glyn's  | 14.5% |

\* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 10%, £50,000 12.5% over

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**The Over-the-Counter Market**

| Company                 | Change | Price | Yield | P/E  | Dividend |
|-------------------------|--------|-------|-------|------|----------|
| 1,184 ABT Ltd 10% CULS  | 119    | 4.1   | 10.0  | 8.4  | —        |
| 4,052 Airspeed Group    | 70     | 4.1   | 4.7   | 6.7  | 11.1     |
| 1,150 Armite & Rhodes   | 40     | 4.1   | 4.3   | 9.3  | 3.8      |
| 12,220 Bardon Hill      | 200    | —     | 4.7   | 4.9  | 9.7      |
| 6,655 Deborah Services  | 86     | —     | 5.5   | 6.4  | 4.3      |
| 4,111 Frank Horsell     | 129    | +     | 6.0   | 5.0  | 11.6     |
| 9,824 Frederick Parker  | 68     | —     | 1.7   | 2.5  | 29.6     |
| 886 George Blair        | 96     | —     | 1.3   | 7.6  | 6.9      |
| 3,859 IPC               | 105    | +     | 15.7  | 15.0 | —        |
| 3,420 Isis Corp Prof    | 97     | —     | 7.0   | 7.2  | 3.1      |
| 2,454 Jackson Group     | 114    | +     | 8.0   | 7.6  | 8.3      |
| 15,734 James Burroughs  | 256    | —     | 31.3  | 12.2 | 3.6      |
| 2,611 Robert Jenkins    | 55     | —     | 3.3   | 9.6  | 8.5      |
| 2,700 Scruttons "A"     | 167    | —     | 10.0  | 6.4  | 5.4      |
| 4,076 Torday & Carlisle | 13     | +     | 15.0  | 20.3 | —        |
| 2,778 Twinklond Corp    | 2,020  | —     | 3.0   | 10.3 | 5.2      |
| 4,425 Unilock Holdings  | 79     | —     | 6.0   | 8.3  | 5.1      |
| 3,380 Water Alexander   | 22     | —     | 13.1  | 6.1  | 4.1      |
| 5,041 W.S. Yeates       | 216    | +     | 13.1  | 6.1  | 4.1      |

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48145

## This week

With only months to go before the launch of its new newspaper, the *Mail on Sunday*, the group should show profits in the region of £20.5m and hold its gross dividend for the year at 14.9p.

Publishing interests will continue to contribute the lion's share of the profits, but the *Daily Mail's* Casino bingo competition has probably cost at least £1m, and the *Standard*, in which the group has a 50 per cent stake, is probably only breaking even.

The group needs the new Sunday paper to make more use of its presses now that the *Evening News* has closed, but its launch is still likely to cost £2m to £3m with no assurance of any return on the investment.

Earnings from North Sea oil which last year, have levelled out, but the prospect of a new well could mean record profits in the coming year.

The group has lost its interest in television now that Southern Television, in which Associated had a 37.5 per cent holding — has lost its franchise, but the company has valuable assets which could be disposed of in the current year.

There should be a return to profitability for high technology specialist Muirhead after its plunge to pretax losses of £2.4m in the year to September 1980 from a profit of £911,000 the previous year.

Muirhead's improvement will come from last year's cost cutting exercise, which included the closure of its south London factory, while the volume of business remains largely unchanged.

While the group's future as a defence subcontractor looks sound, the broadening of the facsimile market, coupled with uncertainties in the newspaper industry, could leave Muirhead out of its depth when it comes to competing with the heavy-spending American and Japanese companies.

Commodity trader S & W Berisford is expected to show only a modest advance from last year's £36.1m profit, with analysts looking for £37m to £38m.

But in a year that has seen one of the most celebrated takeover bids give the group a near 40 per cent stake in British Sugar Corporation, it will be how that investment is treated that could radically alter the profit figure. If it is treated as an associated company and not a trading investment then Berisford profits would benefit to the tune of some £15m.

Despite the modest progress during the year as the commodity markets remained generally dull, the group should be comfortably able to pay total dividends for the year of 10.7p gross, as forecast at the halfway stage.

**Garth David**

**Business appointments**

**New Ellerman chief**

Sir David Scott is the new chairman of Ellerman Lines. He succeeds Mr D. F. Martin-Jenkins, who has retired as chairman and also from the board.

Mr R. D. Cohen has become the finance director of Associated Heat Services.

Mr R. M. Bond and Mr M. R. Watton have joined the board of Riggs and Hill Homes.

**Weekly list of fixed-interest stocks**

| Stock           | Price | Yield |
|-----------------|-------|-------|
| ICI plc 10% Deb | 59.5  | 5.9%  |
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Sir Richard Cave (left), chairman of Thorn EMI, and Lord Rothermere, chairman of Associated Newspapers, both reporting figures on Thursday.

At the half way stage this year, losses were £95,000 before tax, but the directors expect a modest profit for the full year. Analysts' estimates range from £500,000 to £800,000, with the possibility of a 2.28p gross final dividend making 3.7p gross for the year.

Much of the interest in the group, which is heavily involved in supplying facsimile equipment to the newspaper industry, has centred on whether Lyco Laboratories, the American company which built up a 24 per cent stake in Muirhead, might make a bid for the company.

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**Cricket**

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## Taylor is doubtful for next Test

From Richard Streeton  
Janshedgep, Jan 10

There was slightly disturbing news for England today as their three-day game with East Zone here petered out to its inevitable draw. Bob Taylor has gone down with a nose and throat ailment which is undiagnosed, and he must be considered doubtful for the Fifth Test match against India in Madras on Wednesday.

Taylor, who was playing only as a batsman in this game, flew back to Calcutta at breakfast time and was travelling on to Madras to be examined thoroughly by a doctor. Taylor had a high temperature and badly swollen facial glands overnight and was still unwell today.

First opinions were that the wicketkeeper was suffering more from the flu than from the party from the new throat and cartilaginous problems.

Richards, who is keeping wicket here, will win his first cap if Taylor cannot play on Wednesday. He will, I believe, be only the second Cornishman to represent England at cricket, following in the footsteps of Jack Crapp. It is also reasonable to speculate that Richards might open the England innings with Gooch, now that Boycott has returned home.

There is no room on the tour for Cook, the reserve opening batsman, as England strengthen their attack with an additional bowler. Richards has opened for Surrey in one day games and his selection would be a subtle aggressive gesture by England who remain 1-0 down in the series with two tests left. Until Taylor's illness, he would open the innings with Fletcher moving up to number three but, should this happen, England could be in danger of repeating the ultra cautious beginning that did not serve them to well in the earlier tests.

Fletcher left with Taylor this morning to take the opportunity of having an early look at the Madras wicket, which is reputed to be the fastest in India. He remained non-committal about England's final intentions. It was suggested before the Calcutta test last week that England would include a fifth main bowler at the expense of a batsman, but they declined at the eleventh hour to take the gamble.

Fletcher is known to prefer the insurance that an extra batsman provides and if six are played

chance of reaching the finals. And even then either West Indies or Pakistan would have to lose all their bats. At the moment Australia are four points behind the field and West Indies have a match in hand.

Their only encouragement this week and, other than that which they got from today's victory, came from the fact that the improved form of Greg Chappell, who scored 35 against Pakistan and 59 against West Indies. Against Pakistan the Australians kept falling over between the wicket and running themselves out. Having been put in on a pitch that had some early movement in it, Pakistan well deserved their victory. The Man

of the Match was Zaheer, whose 84, though freely made, cost England a single boundary, an indictment of Melbourne's long and grudging outfield.

This morning Australia were soon 41-0, but first, as Laird jerked his head out of the way of a bounce from Holding, his helmet fell on to his stomach. How out? Hit wicket. The best of Australia's early batting came from McCosker, who is currently at the head of first-class batting averages, having scored 635 runs, including three hundreds, from seven completed innings. In striving to find his touch Chappell survived two chances,

both skiers to deep mid-off when he was trying to hit his first boundary, then came back over the top.

With the ball not coming on the bat at all today's was an even more awkward pitch than yesterday's on which to force the batsmen. Chappell, who has been so disgusted with it that he thought at one time of conceding the match. When he walked out to bat, in a similar gesture, the police removed, as being offensive, a banner saying "Buy fresh ducks from Chappell's poultry".

With a second century in the bag, Chappell's batting was batting nicely, and Marsh, before he had scored, both pulled rank long hops into a fielder's hands, and a single which could have cost Australia the match.

All out for 146 in the forty-third of their 50 overs, Australia seemed to have little chance. In the event they came much nearer to winning than scores suggest. With a second century in the bag, Chappell's batting was batting nicely, and Marsh, before he had scored, both pulled rank long hops into a fielder's hands, and a single which could have cost Australia the match.

He soon went sailing past Lloyd, who also played very well before being let before with four over. The last over was within 10 runs of their target. In the end the crowd had their money's worth — all £165,000 of it — and in 10 over and 10 runs, the money is what the game is all about.

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| 1,150 Armite & Rhodes   | 40     | 4.1   | 4.3   | 9.3  | 3.8      |
| 12,220 Bardon Hill      | 200    | —     | 4.7   | 4.9  | 9.7      |
| 6,655 Deborah Services  | 86     | —     | 5.5   | 6.4  | 4.3      |
| 4,111 Frank Horsell     | 129    | +     | 6.0   | 5.0  | 11.6     |
| 9,824 Frederick Parker  | 68     | —     | 1.7   | 2.5  | 29.6     |
| 886 George Blair        | 96     | —     | 1.3   | 7.6  | 6.9      |
| 3,859 IPC               | 105    | +     | 15.7  | 15.0 | —        |
| 3,420 Isis Corp Prof    | 97     | —     | 7.0   | 7.2  | 3.1      |
| 2,454 Jackson Group     | 114    | +     | 8.0   | 7.6  | 8.3      |
| 15,734 James Burroughs  | 256    | —     | 31.3  | 12.2 | 3.6      |
| 2,611 Robert Jenkins    | 55     | —     | 3.3   | 9.6  | 8.5      |
| 2,700 Scruttons "A"     | 167    | —     | 10.0  | 6.4  | 5.4      |
| 4,076 Torday & Carlisle | 13     | +     | 15.0  | 20.3 | —        |
| 2,778 Twinklond Corp    | 2,020  | —     | 3.0   | 10.3 | 5.2      |
| 4,425 Unilock Holdings  | 79     | —     | 6.0   | 8.3  | 5.1      |
| 3,380 Water Alexander   | 22     | —     | 13.1  | 6.1  | 4.1      |
| 5,041 W.S. Yeates       | 216    | +     | 13.1  | 6.1  | 4.1      |

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Gatting: completed his first overseas hundred.

of course, like Richards, would be winning his first cap. The grapevine has it, however, that Fletcher could be the one to be ousted by his fellow seamer.

Any chance of a clear-cut result from today's match disappeared when East Zone did not declare their first innings closed yesterday morning. England allowed their own innings to run virtually

chance of reaching the finals. And even then either West Indies or Pakistan would have to lose all their bats. At the moment Australia are four points behind the field and West Indies have a match in hand.

Their only encouragement this week and, other than that which they got from today's victory, came from the fact that the improved form of Greg Chappell, who scored 35 against Pakistan and 59 against West Indies. Against Pakistan the Australians kept falling over between the wicket and running themselves out. Having been put in on a pitch that had some early movement in it, Pakistan well deserved their victory. The Man

of the Match was Zaheer, whose 84, though freely made, cost England a single boundary, an indictment of Melbourne's long and grudging outfield.

This morning Australia were soon 41-0, but first, as Laird jerked his head out of the way of a bounce from Holding, his helmet fell on to his stomach. How out? Hit wicket. The best of Australia's early batting came from McCosker, who is currently at the head of first-class batting averages, having scored 635 runs, including three hundreds, from seven completed innings. In striving to find his touch Chappell survived two chances,

both skiers to deep mid-off when he was trying to hit his first boundary, then came back over the top.

With the ball not coming on the bat at all today's was an even more awkward pitch than yesterday's on which to force the batsmen. Chappell, who has been so disgusted with it that he thought at one time of conceding the match. When he walked out to bat, in a similar gesture, the police removed, as being offensive, a banner saying "Buy fresh ducks from Chappell's poultry".

With a second century in the bag, Chappell's batting was batting nicely, and Marsh, before he had scored, both pulled rank long hops into a fielder's hands, and a single which could have cost Australia the match.

All out for 146 in the forty-third of their 50 overs, Australia seemed to have little chance. In the event they came much nearer to winning than scores suggest. With a second century in the bag, Chappell's batting was batting nicely, and Marsh, before he had scored, both pulled rank long hops into a fielder's hands, and a single which could have cost Australia the match.

He soon went sailing past Lloyd, who also played very well before being let before with four over. The last over was within 10 runs of their target. In the end the crowd had their money's worth — all £165,000 of it — and in 10 over and 10 runs, the money is what the game is all about.

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| 4,052 Airspeed Group   | 70     | 4.1   | 4.7   | 6.7  | 11.1     |
| 1,150 Armite & Rhodes  | 40     | 4.1   | 4.3   | 9.3  | 3.8      |
| 12,220 Bardon Hill     | 200    | —     | 4.7   | 4.9  | 9.7      |
| 6,655 Deborah Services | 86     | —     | 5.5   | 6.4  | 4.3      |
| 4,111 Frank Horsell    | 129    | +     | 6.0   | 5.0  | 11.6     |
| 9,824 Frederick Parker | 68     | —     | 1.7   | 2.5  | 29.6     |
| 886 George Blair       | 96     | —     | 1.3   | 7.6  | 6.9      |
| 3,859 IPC              | 105    | +     | 15.7  | 15.0 | —        |
| 3,420 Isis Corp Prof   | 97     | —     | 7.0   | 7.2  | 3.1      |
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| 2,700 Scruttons "A"    | 167    | —     | 10.0  | 6.4  | 5.4</    |



Football

# The wintry waste of England's ambitions

By Stuart Jones

Football is now in danger of being left out in the cold. With every snowflake that falls, with every degree that drops below freezing point, another day will be added to the list of days when the football season will be suspended. The Football Association's diary of the season will be a record of the days when the game will be suspended. The Football Association's diary of the season will be a record of the days when the game will be suspended.

After a meeting between the Football Association and the Football League in London yesterday, Graham Taylor, the League secretary, said that it was inevitable that the season will be extended beyond the FA Cup Final on May 22 and that, if another Saturday is lost to bad weather, the situation will become critical. The points panel were called in for the fifth successive Saturday when only eight league games survived and a total of 133 have been called off.

## Forest win fails to hide the cracks

By Gerald Richmond

Nottingham Forest's first league victory at the City Ground since October was born out of two friendly matches played earlier in the week. The Forest's Cup defeat by Wrexham, Luton Town and Leicester City obliged Peter Taylor, who is looking after affairs while Brian Clough remains under doctors' orders, by providing friendly opposition and a consequently sharper Forest. Forest had to play a double game, first a friendly against Wrexham, then a league match against Luton. Forest won both, but the victory over Luton was a narrow one, 1-0, and the Forest's defence was shaky. The Forest's defence was shaky.

## West Ham sign £400,000 defender from Morton

West Ham have signed Neil Orr from Morton for around £400,000. The transfer was completed yesterday after the medical formalities had been completed, and a cash crisis at the Scottish premier division club.

Orr, 22, a rugged left central defender who joined Morton from school in 1974, is the second player to move to England in the space of four months. Bobby Thomson, a midfielder, joined Middlesbrough for £175,000 in September, and Morton manager Benny Rowan admitted yesterday that the club's financial problems were responsible for Orr's transfer.

"The bills have to be paid somehow, particularly when there has been no income during the winter freeze, and that is the only reason he has been allowed to go. It's very disappointing for me to see two such promising players sold out of necessity, and I hope that's the end of it now."

Geoff Worth has resigned as Derby County's youth development officer to join Southampton's scouting staff.

## Part-timers try again

The meeting scheduled for Friday night of the Football League clubs to discuss a proposed relegation and promotion link with the Alliance Premier League was postponed because of the weather and will now be held on January 22. Subsequent talks at the FA between the Alliance, Southern and Northern Premier Leagues, which were planned for tomorrow, will now take place on January 25.

## Today's fixtures

Football League First Division: Arsenal v Liverpool, 12.30; Manchester City v Tottenham, 1.30; Nottingham Forest v Luton, 2.00; Ipswich v Manchester United, 2.30; Leeds v Newcastle, 3.00; Everton v Aston Villa, 3.30; Sheffield Wednesday v Derby, 4.00; Burnley v Arsenal, 4.30; Cardiff v Manchester City, 5.00; Brighton v Ipswich, 5.30; Norwich v Nottingham Forest, 6.00; Southampton v Sheffield Wednesday, 6.30; West Ham v Tottenham, 7.00; Luton v Ipswich, 7.30; Wrexham v Luton, 8.00; Wrexham v Luton, 8.30; Wrexham v Luton, 9.00; Wrexham v Luton, 9.30; Wrexham v Luton, 10.00; Wrexham v Luton, 10.30; Wrexham v Luton, 11.00; Wrexham v Luton, 11.30; Wrexham v Luton, 12.00; Wrexham v Luton, 12.30; Wrexham v Luton, 13.00; Wrexham v Luton, 13.30; Wrexham v Luton, 14.00; Wrexham v Luton, 14.30; Wrexham v Luton, 15.00; Wrexham v Luton, 15.30; Wrexham v Luton, 16.00; Wrexham v Luton, 16.30; Wrexham v Luton, 17.00; Wrexham v Luton, 17.30; Wrexham v Luton, 18.00; Wrexham v Luton, 18.30; Wrexham v Luton, 19.00; 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## Tennis

## Men from Texas are made to dance to a Hungarian rhapsody

By Rex Bellamy

Tennis Correspondent

Holtz, Gunthardt and Balazs

Tennis, already champions of

France, won more than £2,000 by

winning the tournament in

Birmingham, yesterday.

The same pair played 60 games

in the all-play-all series (Gunthardt

and Taroczy won then, too) and

they will meet again next Saturday

in the Masters tournament in

New York. Gunthardt is Swiss

Taroczy Hungarian, and they

decided a year ago that a reason-

ably profitable partnership would be

to play together for winter prac-

tice. Last spring they pressed a

growing rapport to its logical

conclusion by becoming a team.

They are the first Europeans to

win the WCT event since Wojtek

Fibak and Tom Okker did so in

Birmingham City Centre, yester-

day.

Curren is South African, Den-

ton Texan, but they share an

apartment in Austin. Their part-

nership has its roots in the fact

that Curren, then South Africa's

junior champion, took a scholar-

ship at the University of Texas,

where Denton was also studying.

Last year they won three big

tournaments—last night's and

Denton, of course, runners-up.

for the Australian singles cham-

pionship.

In Saturday's semi-final round

at Birmingham, Gunthardt and

Taroczy won in straight sets

against Sherwood Stewart and

John McEwen, in a performance

marked by Gunthardt's deft

touch, the service returns of both

men and the shrewdness with

which they applied their fore-

hand and peppered Taroczy's

ankles.

Denton and Denton came from

behind to beat last year's winner,

Peter McNamara and Paul Mc-

Namee in five sets. The Australian

pair, who had been in the lead

because McNamara was inhibited

by a knee injury, were

beaten by Denton and Denton.

The Heath-Poxon match was at

its best over the first seven

sets, with both players playing

magnificently. In the eighth

game, however, Heath engineered

two glorious dipping forehands

to end the match.

Heath met with little resistance

on his way to tying up the first

set and more or less made his

opponent's life miserable by

coming back to win his service

in the fourth game of the second

set. Before he played, Heath,

who has now won national titles

at under-12, 14, 16 and 18 level,

had taken six pills to keep the

inflammation in his right wrist

under control.

At the start of the girls' singles

it looked as if Miss Gomer was

going to be the worst of her har-

rowing journey. She lost 4-1 in

the first set but Miss Brown,

who has now won national titles

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under control.

A tired arm and McNamee was less

concentrated than he can be,

and partly because of the

some serving power nurtured at

the University of Texas.

Yesterday's match was some-

thing of a Hungarian rhapsody.

Taroczy was superb in the quick-

ness of his reactions, the cuteness

of his thinking and the sureness

of his touch. In spite of the fact

that he was the least powerful

server of the four, he was also the

only man who never lost a service

game.

Gunthardt, mind you, had to

serve most of the worrying games

late in the sets. They planned it

this way, Gunthardt said later that

he was the more likely to serve

an ace or a winner and thus avoid

the anxiety of extended rallies.

He certainly obliged in the last

game, which he began with two

ferocious services that gave the

Europeans a reassuring 3-0 lead.

These pairs are so closely

matched that, during the all-play-

all series and the final, they broke

down three consecutive tie-break

games. The most interesting

between them yesterday. The most

critical factor was the fact that

Gunthardt had to serve three

times lost his service to

Denton.

Curren and Denton had the first

break point in all of the three

sets. But in the first, the Euro-

peans broke Curren for 4-3 and

Gunthardt served for the set at

4-2. In the second, Curren had

the game with a double-fault. A

fine backhand return by Denton

gave him the edge in the tie-

break, but he lost it when he

finished the set as they had begun

it—with the kind of service that

Denton can come back.

The important phase of the

second set came when Gunthardt

and Taroczy saved a break point

by breaking Denton on the way.

But the most significant game of

the match may have been the

third set, when Curren had

a break point but somehow held

on. Such a game often gives its

winners confidence and leaves its

losers frustrated and vulnerable.

The Europeans made the most

of their position. Gunthardt held

his service to 15 in the next

game and Denton then lost two

consecutive service games to love.

All that was left was a service

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**PROPERTY** £4,500

Well known estate agent needs Sec. P.A. for Managing Director.

**RECEPTIONIST** £4,000

Yachtbroker company needs user receptionist for office and personally.

01-493 8960

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

£2,000 - negotiable

Major international company planning large scale expansion in the UK. Requires a fast, efficient, and motivated administrative assistant to handle a wide range of clerical and administrative duties. Salary £2,000 p.a.

**PA/SECRETARY**

£7,000 + mortgage

Working for an executive in the City, you will be responsible for a wide range of administrative and clerical duties. Salary £7,000 p.a. plus mortgage.

**SENIOR SECRETARIES**

3/4/10/15/20/25/30/35/40/45/50/55/60/65/70/75/80/85/90/95/100/105/110/115/120/125/130/135/140/145/150/155/160/165/170/175/180/185/190/195/200/205/210/215/220/225/230/235/240/245/250/255/260/265/270/275/280/285/290/295/300/305/310/315/320/325/330/335/340/345/350/355/360/365/370/375/380/385/390/395/400/405/410/415/420/425/430/435/440/445/450/455/460/465/470/475/480/485/490/495/500/505/510/515/520/525/530/535/540/545/550/555/560/565/570/575/580/585/590/595/600/605/610/615/620/625/630/635/640/645/650/655/660/665/670/675/680/685/690/695/700/705/710/715/720/725/730/735/740/745/750/755/760/765/770/775/780/785/790/795/800/805/810/815/820/825/830/835/840/845/850/855/860/865/870/875/880/885/890/895/900/905/910/915/920/925/930/935/940/945/950/955/960/965/970/975/980/985/990/995/1000/1005/1010/1015/1020/1025/1030/1035/1040/1045/1050/1055/1060/1065/1070/1075/1080/1085/1090/1095/1100/1105/1110/1115/1120/1125/1130/1135/1140/1145/1150/1155/1160/1165/1170/1175/1180/1185/1190/1195/1200/1205/1210/1215/1220/1225/1230/1235/1240/1245/1250/1255/1260/1265/1270/1275/1280/1285/1290/1295/1300/1305/1310/1315/1320/1325/1330/1335/1340/1345/1350/1355/1360/1365/1370/1375/1380/1385/1390/1395/1400/1405/1410/1415/1420/1425/1430/1435/1440/1445/1450/1455/1460/1465/1470/1475/1480/1485/1490/1495/1500/1505/1510/1515/1520/1525/1530/1535/1540/1545/1550/1555/1560/1565/1570/1575/1580/1585/1590/1595/1600/1605/1610/1615/1620/1625/1630/1635/1640/1645/1650/1655/1660/1665/1670/1675/1680/1685/1690/1695/1700/1705/1710/1715/1720/1725/1730/1735/1740/1745/1750/1755/1760/1765/1770/1775/1780/1785/1790/1795/1800/1805/1810/1815/1820/1825/1830/1835/1840/1845/1850/1855/1860/1865/1870/1875/1880/1885/1890/1895/1900/1905/1910/1915/1920/1925/1930/1935/1940/1945/1950/1955/1960/1965/1970/1975/1980/1985/1990/1995/2000/2005/2010/2015/2020/2025/2030/2035/2040/2045/2050/2055/2060/2065/2070/2075/2080/2085/2090/2095/2100/2105/2110/2115/2120/2125/2130/2135/2140/2145/2150/2155/2160/2165/2170/2175/2180/2185/2190/2195/2200/2205/2210/2215/2220/2225/2230/2235/2240/2245/2250/2255/2260/2265/2270/2275/2280/2285/2290/2295/2300/2305/2310/2315/2320/2325/2330/2335/2340/2345/2350/2355/2360/2365/2370/2375/2380/2385/2390/2395/2400/2405/2410/2415/2420/2425/2430/2435/2440/2445/2450/2455/2460/2465/2470/2475/2480/2485/2490/2495/2500/2505/2510/2515/2520/2525/2530/2535/2540/2545/2550/2555/2560/2565/2570/2575/2580/2585/2590/2595/2600/2605/2610/2615/2620/2625/2630/2635/2640/2645/2650/2655/2660/2665/2670/2675/2680/2685/2690/2695/2700/2705/2710/2715/2720/2725/2730/2735/2740/2745/2750/2755/2760/2765/2770/2775/2780/2785/2790/2795/2800/2805/2810/2815/2820/2825/2830/2835/2840/2845/2850/2855/2860/2865/2870/2875/2880/2885/2890/2895/2900/2905/2910/2915/2920/2925/2930/2935/2940/2945/2950/2955/2960/2965/2970/2975/2980/2985/2990/2995/3000/3005/3010/3015/3020/3025/3030/3035/3040/3045/3050/3055/3060/3065/3070/3075/3080/3085/3090/3095/3100/3105/3110/3115/3120/3125/3130/3135/3140/3145/3150/3155/3160/3165/3170/3175/3180/3185/3190/3195/3200/3205/3210/3215/3220/3225/3230/3235/3240/3245/3250/3255/3260/3265/3270/3275/3280/3285/3290/3295/3300/3305/3310/3315/3320/3325/3330/3335/3340/3345/3350/3355/3360/3365/3370/3375/3380/3385/3390/3395/3400/3405/3410/3415/3420/3425/3430/3435/3440/3445/3450/3455/3460/3465/3470/3475/3480/3485/3490/3495/3500/3505/3510/3515/3520/3525/3530/3535/3540/3545/3550/3555/3560/3565/3570/3575/3580/3585/3590/3595/3600/3605/3610/3615/3620/3625/3630/3635/3640/3645/3650/3655/3660/3665/3670/3675/3680/3685/3690/3695/3700/3705/3710/3715/3720/3725/3730/3735/3740/3745/3750/3755/3760/3765/3770/3775/3780/3785/3790/3795/3800/3805/3810/3815/3820/3825/3830/3835/3840/3845/3850/3855/3860/3865/3870/3875/3880/3885/3890/3895/3900/3905/3910/3915/3920/3925/3930/3935/3940/3945/3950/3955/3960/3965/3970/3975/3980/3985/3990/3995/4000/4005/4010/4015/4020/4025/4030/4035/4040/4045/4050/4055/4060/4065/4070/4075/4080/4085/4090/4095/4100/4105/4110/4115/4120/4125/4130/4135/4140/4145/4150/4155/4160/4165/4170/4175/4180/4185/4190/4195/4200/4205/4210/4215/4220/4225/4230/4235/4240/4245/4250/4255/4260/4265/4270/4275/4280/4285/4290/4295/4300/4305/4310/4315/4320/4325/4330/4335/4340/4345/4350/4355/4360/4365/4370/4375/4380/4385/4390/4395/4400/4405/4410/4415/4420/4425/4430/4435/4440/4445/4450/4455/4460/4465/4470/4475/4480/4485/4490/4495/4500/4505/4510/4515/4520/4525/4530/4535/4540/4545/4550/4555/4560/4565/4570/4575/4580/4585/4590/4595/4600/4605/4610/4615/4620/4625/4630/4635/4640/4645/4650/4655/4660/4665/4670/4675/4680/4685/4690/4695/4700/4705/4710/4715/4720/4725/4730/4735/4740/4745/4750/4755/4760/4765/4770/4775/4780/4785/4790/4795/4800/4805/4810/4815/4820/4825/4830/4835/4840/4845/4850/4855/4860/4865/4870/4875/4880/4885/4890/4895/4900/4905/4910/4915/4920/4925/4930/4935/4940/4945/4950/4955/4960/4965/4970/4975/4980/4985/4990/4995/5000/5005/5010/5015/5020/5025/5030/5035/5040/5045/5050/5055/5060/5065/5070/5075/5080/5085/5090/5095/5100/5105/5110/5115/5120/5125/5130/5135/5140/5145/5150/5155/5160/5165/5170/5175/5180/5185/5190/5195/5200/5205/5210/5215/52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## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

WHITE SIMPLY OFFERS THE BEST

**FLAT SHARIN**

**FLAT SHARING**

**MARYLEBONE**

Prof person, singl, shrt, shrv, 25, 5'6", 120lb, brown hair, blue eyes, from room within 100 yds. of a block close time 7-9 G/H C.H.W. all day available. Tel. 01-233 1111. T.V. 10-11.50. References required. \$220. Enquiries

**462 5322**

**GENUINE CALLS PLEASE**

**WATFICK SQUARE**  
Singles 20s with all

to share with 1 child  
double bed, own bath  
\$500.00 inc. Tel. 833-  
5566.

**KEN HUGH STREET,**  
5 professional persons  
to share small house,  
sitting room, cfl. Tel. 7-  
4105 and service. \$33  
incl. Tel. 769 1973. am. 9

**P.M.**

**SW11—24+**, required  
modern flat, own car  
room, d.b. Tel. 833-  
and bus. 225 0837  
pm.

**SW5—Large room for**  
to share house. Tel. 833-  
6335. Tel. 833 1002.

**HIGH ST. KEN. Prof. firm**  
25, to share room in  
flat. \$25 p.w. Tel. 01-5-  
5916.

**SW16—Own room,**  
no smoking, car  
p.c.m. incl. 769 3582.

**NEW ROOM** in mfrs.  
p.w. Inc. 476 0212  
bath, kitchen and  
fr in comfortable  
house. \$30 p.w. 6  
day 223 2216  
**CALIFORNIA**  
breakfast 228 p.w. 3622  
**MS** own room 240 p.w. 3622  
Tel. 930 2816, 937 458  
bath, kitchen and  
fr. 228 p.w. 3622  
Tel. 930 399 2571  
**LARGE BEDS** in (single)  
house, on 14 bus.  
p.w. 6905.  
**SEA GRAVITY**, 300 - You  
seasonal female, none  
own room in luxury  
p.w. Inc. Cal. 62  
GARDEN.  
**UPPER MALL**, W. 2 st.  
room new has all  
bath, kitchen 2261 (one)  
bath, kitchen 2261 (one)  
**SECOND PERSON**  
Tel. 673 2176  
Tel. 673 2176 (even).

SWT. F-239 4482 sdr  
PROF. F-236 weeks acc  
tion re tubo sdr \$15-  
SWT. 0599 work hrs.  
FULMANN, J. E. 214  
lux house in tube; 214  
acst. 6285 0648 ext. 661  
W23. Third person shars  
tub. 214 sdr. \$130  
214-1777 ext. 225.  
and GUYL own room. NW  
city Excl. 961 2025 sdr  
214-1777 ext. 225. acst  
tube sdr. 225-50 p.  
0594 work hours.  
SWT.-News. Mail per  
room. c.h. TV. Park  
Rd. Spacial Colo., ad  
(Camp)  
FINCHLEY-F to share  
-flat own room. \$1000  
-flat own room. \$354 (swee)  
\$1000. 214-1777 ext. 225.  
flat own room. \$250 p.  
214-1777 ext. 225.

**SITUATIONS WANTED**

**PROFESSIONAL** Couple twentysix, graduates, business background, seeking interesting opportunity in the world. Box 1186 Times.

**WOMAN** 29 yrs. Adv. Pub. S. excellent education, exciting opportunities anywhere in world. 0-17.

**ACCOUNTANT - BOOKKEEPER** Available part-time. 400

**CAR HIRE**  
DAIMLER Limousine with  
four Any occasion.  
6219 (private).

**MOTOR CARS**

**1978 DAIMLER  
LIMOUSINE**  
Chesterman's car, chauffeur  
driven and maintenance  
service.

**1974 DAIMLER  
LIMOUSINE**  
Director's car, chain  
driven and maintained  
wgs. 87,500

condition: £3,000 and  
Tel.: Judy Needham  
01-628 9777, ext 416

**URGENTLY**  
We are causing an even greater  
than usual for travellers  
from the international  
modation of exceptional  
quire houses and large  
Kensington, Chelsea,  
and surrounding  
and five bedrooms at  
£500 a week.

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## DAYS

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